

Advertiser-News

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Volume XXI Number 13

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

April 2, 1998

School Board Restores Items To New Budget

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At Tuesday night's School Budget workshop, the School Committee approved an additional \$62,500 in school spending to the \$21.9 million budget proposal submitted by the superintendent of schools last month.

Before giving tentative approval to the spending plans for the Middle School, Junior High, High School, and computer cost centers, the committee decided to hire an additional sixth grade teacher at the Middle School and restored funding originally requested by Junior High principal Kevin Littlefield to expand the part-time position of substance abuse counselor to a full-time position, and to purchase equipment for an outdoor fitness/exercise course.

A unanimous School Committee overrode School Superintendent Frank Ameruso's plan to eliminate the half-time position of substance abuse counselor at the Junior High, and restored the \$30,000 originally requested by Littlefield to provide a full-time substance abuse counselor.

Difficult Decision

Littlefield said the difficult decision to cut the funding for a full-time counselor from the budget eventually submitted to the School Committee had been made with other requests throughout the school system in mind.

"I think you know my position by looking at my original request," Littlefield said. "Absolutely, this is something we should have. If we deal correctly with just one student, it's \$30,000 well spent."

Ameruso said his plan was to have the High School's substance abuse counselor spend three days at the High School and two days at the Junior High. But, the School Committee turned thumbs down on the plan, fearing it would dilute services at both schools. Ameruso said the loss of grant money to fund both substance abuse counselors led to his decision to have one counselor cover both schools.

Committeewoman Rosemary Sandlin said the School Department should take on the commitment to pick up funding for successful programs when state money runs out, and that attempting to have part-time coverage by one counselor at both schools would create a "terrible gap" in services to the students.

"By diluting services at the High School, we would be diluting services at both schools," Mrs. Sandlin said. "Mr. (Jack) Dougherty has enough to do at the High School."

Committeewoman Teresa Kozloski said the priority was to provide the money for services directly benefiting the students. "We have to catch them earlier than the High School," Mrs. Kozloski said.

Fishin' In March Was Never So Good



ALAN FERRIGNO, president of the Mawaga Club, poses with Talía, Tifani, and Jim Sherbo at the annual "Lunker Derby" held on the club's grounds last Sunday, March 29th. Although the calendar said "March 29th," the unseasonably warm weather made all the derby participants feel as though summer was already here. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

SEE RESTORE ITEMS - Page 2...

RESTORE ITEMS - from Page 1...

AHS Dean of Students Bernadette Conte said statistics showing society is losing 20 percent of each generation to substance abuse underscores the need for prevention programs as early as the Middle School years when many youngsters begin experimenting with drugs and alcohol. "We need our full-time counselor at the High School," Mrs. Conte said. "Emergencies happen all the time and students need to be able to talk confidentially with the counselor at any time. Mr. Dougherty is an integral part of our school. There isn't any teacher who hasn't used his services for their students."

Overriding Ameruso for the second time, the committee restored Littlefield's request for \$3,000 to begin purchasing equipment for an outdoor fitness course around the perimeter of the Junior High School.

Five-Year Plan To Build Fitness Course

Athletics and Physical Education Director Kathleen McSweeney explained the money was to be used as part of a five-year plan to purchase two or three stations a year to build a fitness course that could include a wall climbing challenge.

Acting chairwoman in the absence of the Mayor, Linda Galarneau said the committee voted 4-2 to add a regular education teacher to address the problem of class size in the sixth grade, even though Principal Ralph Zavarella had not requested the new position. Zavarella's original request for an additional Special Education teacher

had been cut from the superintendent's budget. Voting in favor of adding \$30,000 for a sixth grade teacher to the Middle School budget were committee members Louis Massola, Jr., Rosemary Sandlin, Teresa Kozloski, and Linda Galarneau. Against were committeewomen Susan Pettazzoni and Roberta Doering.

Both Mrs. Pettazzoni and Mrs. Doering said they could not support creating a position without first seeing a plan from the principal detailing how the new position would be useful in reducing class size.

"I agree that class size should be reduced," Mrs. Doering said. "But, I couldn't go along with the committee acting out of the blue without any forethought or a plan."

Leave Spending Plan To The Principal

Mrs. Pettazzoni said she would have preferred to have seen the committee increase the funding for staffing, but leave it up to the principal whether it would be better to hire one teacher or spend the money on teaching assistants.

Refusing to pay for reading material for students serving detention at the High School, the School Committee cut \$500 from the \$4.4 million budget submitted by AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski. The consensus of opinion was that students should bring homework and school books with them to detention.

The next budget workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 7th at 7:00 p.m., in the Middle School. The School Committee will consider budgets for Special Education, Early Childhood, programs with other districts, and line items.

LEGAL NOTICE**LEGAL NOTICE****LEGAL NOTICE****LEGAL NOTICE**

**TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, April 9, 1998 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Longo for property located at 113 Parkedge Drive.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: April 2, 1998

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By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: April 2, 1998

Cellucci Fundraiser Scheduled For Wed., April 8th, At The Oaks

You are cordially invited to join with The Honorable Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor of Agawam, at a campaign fundraiser for Governor Paul Cellucci on Wednesday, April 8th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at The Oaks Banquet House, 1070 Suffolk Street, Agawam.

The contribution is \$15 per person, and tickets are available by calling 786-6297 or at the door.

Please remember that our deadline for articles, ads, etc., is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!!

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- George F. Will



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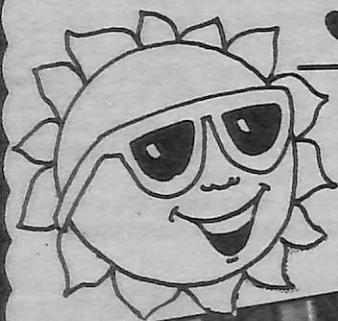
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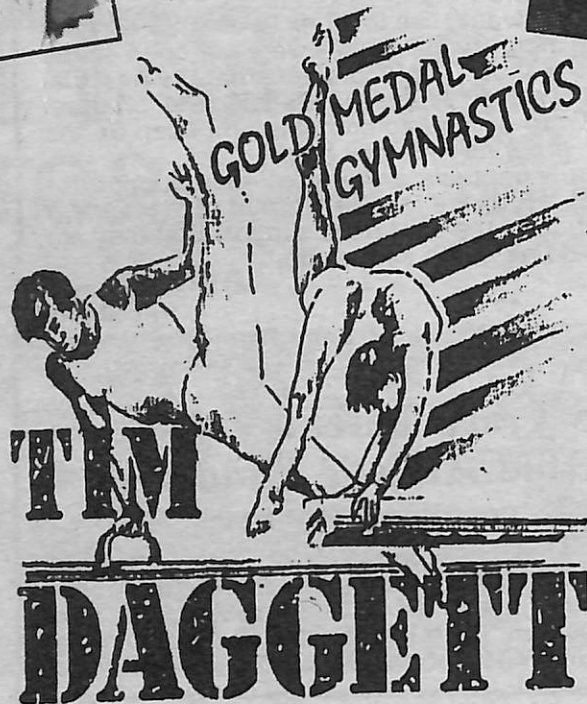
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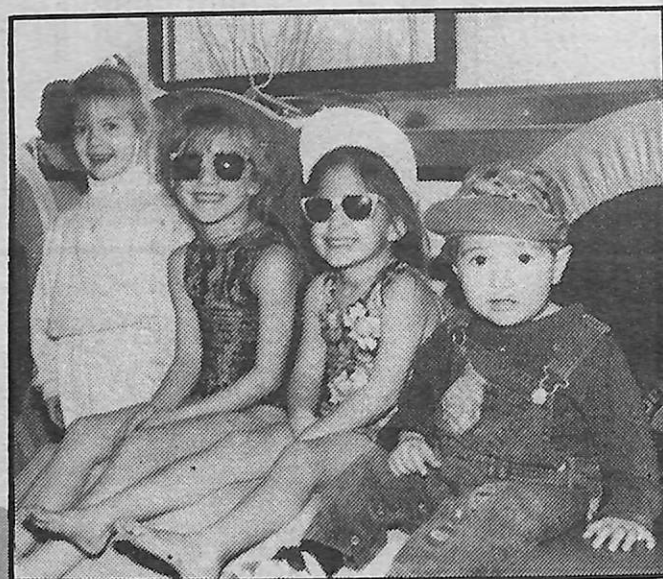
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Letters To The Editor

Johnson Encourages Public To Attend Cellucci Fundraiser

To The Editor:
To The People Of Agawam:

Each and every citizen of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts faces an important decision in this November's state election. Do we keep our state on the path toward progress and prosperity, or do we take a chance on our future?

Governor Paul Cellucci has proven over the last eight years that he can move our state in the right direction. Under his leadership along with former Governor Weld, Massachusetts has seen meaningful education reform, welfare reform, workers' compensation reform, numerous tax cuts, a significant drop in unemployment, and the strengthening of our economy through the creation of new quality jobs, infrastructure investment, and common sense economic development initiatives.

I strongly believe that we should keep Massachusetts moving forward by reelecting Paul Cellucci as the next Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. During these critical days before the election, it is hard to find candidates for governor who will hold reasonably priced fundraising events that allow each and every citizen the opportunity to share their views and express their support.

I am pleased to extend an invitation on behalf of Governor Cellucci for you to join with him on Wednesday, April 8th, at The Oaks Banquet House in Agawam as he works toward election as the next Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Tickets are \$15 per person and available by calling 786-6297 or at the door. Please come and show your support, and let's keep our state moving in the right direction.

Very truly yours,
Christopher C. Johnson
Mayor of Agawam

Phelps School Did a Great Job During Evacuation

To The Editor:

On Thursday, March 26th, an oil leak occurred at Phelps School. Because of the smell of the oil, the school had to be evacuated.

I would like to commend the staff of Phelps for the way they handled this situation. This is the first time in recent memory that something like this happened, and everybody involved went above and beyond the call of duty to make sure that the kids were okay.

The school secretary, Joan Couture, remained calm and collected, and with the help of school nurse Sherry Petrucci, coordinated phone calls to parents to notify them of the early dismissal. Several teachers and staff members also helped with phone calls.

When there were no more available phone lines and calls still to be made, parents used cell phones to make calls. Another group of parents

assisted the teachers with keeping all the students in the auditorium and making sure they were all accounted for. Teachers and parents worked together to keep the kids calm and to be sure parents were contacted.

Many parents assisted each other by taking home children whose parents could not get to the school right away to pick them up. Through teamwork, arrangements were made to get all the kids home safely.

As I left the building, the kindergarten teachers were calling the homes of their students to double check that those who left on the bus got home safely. Other teachers stayed until they were sure that all their students had someone at home waiting, or someone picking them up.

This incident serves as a reminder of how important the emergency cards kept for each student are. We hear the school nurse talk about them at the beginning of each school year, and our school secretaries remind us periodically to keep them updated. Until something like this happens, we really don't give them much thought.

To all parents, please keep that information up-to-date. It is the only way that the schools have of reaching you and/or someone who can be responsible for your child. The emergency cards are for the safety of your child.

Also, please don't be upset if you are called at work by the school secretary or nurse. As the parent of a child, you are the first person who will be called in any emergency situation. You can then give instructions for your child if you cannot come to get them.

Once again, I would like to thank and commend the entire staff of Phelps School, especially Joan and Sherry, for the great job they did in taking care of our children on March 26th.

Sincerely,
Deborah J. Sekula
Agawam

Band Parents' Association Appreciates Financial Support

To The Editor:

Just recently, on March 15th, the Agawam High School Band Parents' Association hosted an Indoor Guard and Percussion Show as a fundraiser for the group.

On behalf of the Band Parents' Association, I would like to give SPECIAL THANKS to the following businesses that donated to our cause:

STOP & SHOP, BIG Y, WALDBAUM'S FOOD-MART, DAVE'S PET & SODA CITY, GEISSLER'S, NISSEN'S, TOLLI'S PIZZA, PARTHENON PIZZA, and BRUNO'S PIZZA.

Also, we would like to thank MARIA'S PIZZA for offering a certificate as they were not open on the day of the show. The fundraisers that the Association tries to do helps the Band/Guard program continue to be able to compete and keep up the GREAT program that they have.

We truly appreciate your continued support for our students as we are VERY proud of them and it is because of the continued support that they are able to do as much as they do.

Sincerely,
Pat Sherry
Band Parents' Secretary

AHS Track Parents' Assoc. To Hold Athletic Fundraiser

To The Editor:

The Agawam High School Track Parents' Association is sponsoring the first Annual Alumni Track Meet to be held on Sunday, May 24th, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. (with registration at 12:30 p.m.) at the Agawam High School track field.

The cost per alumni or resident athlete is \$3. Admission to the event is \$3 general admission; students, \$2 (with student ID); and seniors free. Come out and support the Agawam High School boys'/girls' track team as they compete against former track athletes, other high school students, and residents.

There will be a concession stand with water, juices, coffee, and snacks for sale. This event is a fundraiser for the Agawam High School track team. All proceeds will be donated to the Track Parents' Association to continue assisting the athletes.

Volunteers are welcome to assist the officials and work the concession stand. Call Grace Tildent at 786-3942 or Debbie Ward at 786-2345 if you can help us out. Keep checking *The AAN* for more details.

Thank you,
The AHS Track Parents' Assoc. Board
Vicky Alfano, Emily Crough, Diane DeLuca,
Mary Thomas, Grace & Peter Tilden, and
Debbie & Barry Ward

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By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
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Published: April 2, 1998

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By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
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Published: April 2, 1998

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

Friday, April 3rd
"First Friday Series" presents the
Young at Heart Chorus from Northampton
At Agawam Public Library
7:30 p.m.
(Concert is free and open to the public)

Saturday, April 4th
Registration for all Agawam Parks/Rec. camps
At Agawam Junior High School cafeteria
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 7th
Annual Lisa Ziegert Memorial Scholarship Concert
(performed by the AHS Band in AHS auditorium)
7:00 p.m.
Voluntary donation: \$5

Wednesday, April 8th
Three grief support groups (sponsored by
the Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home)
At Captain Leonard House, 663 Main St., Agawam
Call 786-2600 for specific times and
information regarding each support group

Monday, April 13th
Meeting of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam
At St. John's Parish Center, 833 Main St., Agawam
7:30 p.m.

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Veterans' Corner...

Clarifying Changes In Veterans' Eligibility For Health Care

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent

Over the past two weeks, we have been inundated with telephone calls and office visits from veterans concerned about their entitlement to V.A. health care. They were led to believe that if they do not enroll at the nearest V.A. facility prior to October 1, 1998, they will lose their eligibility permanently.

I contacted the V.A. outpatient clinic in Springfield and they were kind enough to fax the following clarification of V.A. entitlement to health care:

"Washington D.C. - In response to incorrect information distributed by others on the Internet, the Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A.) is clarifying recent changes regarding veterans' eligibility for health care.

"V.A. is required by law to establish an enrollment system for health care services to be in place by October 1, 1998. While veterans must be enrolled to receive care, it does not mean that veterans who have not applied for enrollment by that date will lose their eligibility for V.A. health care. Veterans who have received V.A. health care services since October 1996 will have an application processed automatically on their behalf.

"Applicants will be placed in one of seven enrollment priority groups specified by Congress. Based on the priority they are assigned, the number of other veterans requesting to be enrolled, and the funds available for V.A. health care, V.A. will determine how many veterans can be served. Veterans will be notified by mail beginning in late spring whether or not their application for enrollment has been accepted.

"After October 1, 1998, some veterans may still be treated without being enrolled, veterans with service-connected disabilities may be treated for those disabilities, and veterans who were discharged or released from active duty for a disability incurred or aggravated while on active duty may be treated for that disability within the

first 12 months after their discharge.

"Veterans who are classified as being service-disabled with a rating of 50 percent or greater will continue to be eligible for V.A. health care services without making application for enrollment.

"While veterans in these categories do not have to be enrolled to be treated, they are encouraged to do so to help V.A. plan its services and allocate its resources.

"Those who are enrolled will be eligible for inpatient and outpatient services, including preventive and primary care. Other services include: diagnosis and treatment; rehabilitation; mental health and substance abuse treatment; home health, respite, and hospice care; and drugs and pharmaceuticals in conjunction with V.A. treatment.

"Veterans accepted for enrollment will be eligible to receive care at any of V.A.'s more than 1,100 service sites. While enrollment must be renewed every year, a veteran's enrollment will automatically be renewed unless he or she chooses not to re-enroll, or unless V.A. resources limit the number of veterans the department can cover.

"Certain veterans will be asked to provide income information annually in order for V.A. to properly classify them within the enrollment system, as required by law.

"To apply for enrollment, veterans should call, write, or visit their nearest V.A. health care facility. Most facilities have designated special enrollment coordinators to assist veterans and their families, and to answer any questions they may have."

For enrollment, contact the V.A. outpatient clinic in Springfield at 785-0301.

If you have any questions regarding the aforementioned information, please contact Veterans' Services at Agawam Town Hall, 786-0400, ext. 236/237.

Check our classified ads each and every week...

Congressman Neal To Be Part Of Summit On Retirement Savings

Congressman Richard E. Neal, a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, has been chosen by President Bill Clinton to participate in the first National Summit on Retirement Savings to be held at the White House in June.

The goal of the historic summit is to increase public awareness and understanding of retirement savings and its critical importance to the future well-being of American workers and their families.

At a White House press conference recently, National Economic Council Director Gene Sperling announced that a 200-member bi-partisan panel will convene in Washington to address issues relating to individual and employer-based retirement savings. The President selected 100 individuals to participate in the summit, the Senate Majority Leader selected 50, and the Speaker of the House chose 50.

The impending retirement of the baby boom generation, combined with an overburdened entitlement system, has made personal retirement savings an important and timely issue. As a result, the summit will facilitate the development of a broad-based, public education program to encourage and enhance individual commitment to a personal retirement savings strategy.

"I am very pleased to have been chosen by the President to participate in this historic summit. Increasing public awareness about the importance of personal savings for retirement has been a priority of mine for many years. And as the baby boom generation contemplates retirement, this issue becomes even more important. It is clear that private pensions and individual retirement savings deserve a national discussion, and the White House summit will provide the country with the appropriate forum," said Neal.

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'Nat'l Arts In The Schools Month'...

School Committee Is Honored For Supporting Arts

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

For their financial support of the visual and performing arts in Agawam, the School Committee is being nominated for a statewide award.

School Superintendent Frank Ameruso and Music Academic Coordinator Tamara Watson are co-sponsoring the nomination of the School Committee for the Massachusetts School Committee Arts in Education Award, which is handed out annually by the Massachusetts Alliance for Education.

The statewide winners are automatically entered into the National Kennedy Center Awards, Ameruso said.

According to Miss Watson, the arts educators are nominating the School Committee for its commitment to financial support of the professional development and material and supplies needed to fully align Agawam's curriculum with the state mandated frameworks.

Also, the School Committee is looking at adding an arts requirement for students at the High School. Presently, students are required to study both art and music from kindergarten through the Junior High School.

Sampling Of Students' Achievements

As part of their month-long celebration of National Arts in the Schools Month, art and music faculty members put a sampling of their students' achievements on display at last week's School Committee meeting.

In a multi-media presentation featuring live performances, as well as a video produced by students **Charlie Denison** and **Jared Hamre** (depicting arts education in the schools), the Art and Music Departments gave an overview of their work in bringing their programs in line with the state's theme of *The Practice of Creating* encompassing art, music, theater, dance, and creative writing.

"All school districts in the state will be required to comply with the standards set down in *Goals 2000* by the year 2000," Miss Watson said. "Because of the financial support of the School Committee, we're already there."

Although the arts are included in the Massachusetts common core of learning for public school students, they are not among the five subject areas to be tested by the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment Tests, Miss Watson said.

Sixth grader **Sara Dorans** said she was glad to have more opportunity to study art and music than her parents had in their public schools. "My parents think the arts are just as important as any other subject in school," Sara said.

Introducing the members of her choral group who were selected for the Junior Western District



JUNIOR HIGH CHORAL GROUP MEMBERS Jen Jutte, Matt Couture, Amanda Brown, Lucy Young, and Kimberly Smith are introduced at the March 24th School Committee meeting by their teacher, Susan Brown (far right). These students were selected for the Junior Western District Music Festival. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Music Festival, Junior High choral music teacher Susan Brown said, "We have the largest Junior High band in Agawam's history and the largest courses, so it's not surprising that we had the highest number of our students for the Junior Western District Music Festival."

The choral group won the audiences' praise and appreciation for their a cappella performance and members of the High School Jazz Band brought down the house with their recreation of a World War II canteen dance.

Taking on the part of "GI" **Matt Poirier's** sweetheart, AHS junior **Jennifer Maguire** urged the audience to "Come back with us to the 40's and enjoy one of our favorite songs, *Take The A Train*."

Jazz band members **Charlie Denison**, **Brad Tilden**, **Ryan Stack**, **Pat Lennon**, and **Steve Messina**, canteen girls **Shelley Rose** and **Robin Przybyla**, and the dancing couple earned standing ovations for their performances.

School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson said the town was fortunate to have such talented teachers teaching such talented students.

"What we've seen here tonight is just the tip of the iceberg," Johnson said. "I urge everyone in town to go to a student performance or to see the artwork when it's on display."

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

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Entertaining The Agawam School Committee...



IN LEFT PHOTO: "GI" Matt Poirier and his "sweetheart," Jennifer Maguire, demonstrate how to *Take The A Train* during the recent recreation of a World War II canteen dance for the School Committee. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Providing musical accompaniment for the dance are AHS jazz band members Ryan Stack, Charlie Denison, and Pat Lennon. The dance was part of Agawam's celebration of "National Arts in the Schools Month." Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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— Agawam Obituaries —

Jennifer A. Posnik

Jennifer A. Posnik, 29, of Warren Avenue, Plymouth, died at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

She was an accountant with Proto-Care in Boston.

Born in Springfield, she lived in Longmeadow and Agawam until moving to Plymouth in 1995.

She was a graduate of the Massachusetts Hospital School in Canton and attended Holyoke Community College.

She was a member of Beth El Temple in Springfield.

She was a published poet and organized many Walk-a-Thons for people with disabilities. She also worked on the campaign of Senator Edward Kennedy.

She leaves her father, Jay Posnik of Longmeadow; her mother, Jerilyn (Abrahams) Asher of Concord; her paternal grandmother, Esther (Paroshinsky) Posnik of Longmeadow; two brothers, Jon of Chicago and Zachary of Longmeadow; and a sister, Mollie Posnik of Longmeadow.

The funeral was held at Harold R. Ascher and Son Memorial Chapel in Springfield, with burial in Beth El Cemetery in West Springfield. Memorial observances and services took place at the homes of both her father and mother.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Massachusetts Hospital School, 35 Randolph Street, Canton, MA 02021-2397, or to the United Cerebral Palsy Development office, 367 Pine Street, Springfield, MA 01105, or to the Aaron Posnik Memorial Fund, in care of the Jewish Endowment Fund, 1160 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108.

Theresa J. Giguere

Theresa J. (Dahlke) Giguere, 71, of Quechee, Vermont, died at home.

She was the owner of the Nanny Day Care Center in Agawam for 10 years, and retired in 1988.

Born in Springfield, MA, she moved to Belmont, New Hampshire, upon her retirement.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam.

Her husband, Frederick, died in 1998.

She leaves two sons, Frederick of Kissimmee, Florida, and Lawrence of Quechee; a brother, Paul of Agawam; a sister, Ruth Navone; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

The funeral was held at the church, and the burial was at the convenience of the family. West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home was in charge of the local arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Box 3704, Memphis, Tennessee 38103.

Nellie B. Renth

Nellie B. "Babe" (Marcinkiewicz) Renth, 84, formerly of 310 Stafford Street, Springfield, died at a local nursing home.

She was a 25-year baker at the former A&P Bakery. She retired in 1976.

Born in Athol, she lived in Springfield most of her life and was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

Her first husband, Theodore Kubik, died in the 1930's. Her second husband, Herbert G. Renth, died in 1982.

She leaves a son, Eugene "Ted" Kubik of Agawam; a brother, Bernard of Ludlow; a sister, Joan Murphy of Ludlow; and a granddaughter.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home in Agawam and in the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sacred Heart Church Renovation Fund, 395 Chestnut Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

Alice M. Young

The funeral of Alice M. (Biergel-Barclay) Young, 82, of 24606 Cypress Street, Lomita, California, who died at home on March 13th, was conducted in Lomita, and the burial was at Green Hill Memorial Park in Rancho Palos Verdes.

Her husband, Howard Young, died on March 5th.

She leaves three daughters, Sister Darlene Young of Rolling Hills, California, and Nancy Stanek and Melanie Hudnall of Lomita; a brother, John Biergel of Feeding Hills; a sister, Jean Woishnis of Agawam; and three grandchildren.

Gamby Mortuary was in charge of the arrangements, and memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Charity, 28600 Palos Verdes Drive East, Rolling Hills, California 90274.

Margaret A. Skala

Margaret A. ("Cookie") Impagnatiello Skala, 55, of 26 Varney Street, Springfield, died in Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She had been a hairdresser for the former Braxton Hair Salon and was the former owner of the former Bunch of Balloons, the first clown balloon business in Springfield.

A lifelong resident of Springfield, she was a graduate of Cathedral High School and a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, where she served as a former member of the Auxiliary Club.

She was a member of the Marksman Drum & Bugle Corp., and the Sisters of Columbus of the Dante Club, West Springfield.

Her husband, Alfred F. Skala, died in 1991.

She leaves a son, Michael F.J. Skala, and a daughter, Melissa A. Newton, both of Springfield; a sister, Catherine R. Gladu of West Springfield; and three grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home, with services in the church and burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Anita R. Suleski

Anita R. (Taylor) Rose Suleski, 62, of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, died in a Fort Lauderdale hospital.

Formerly Mrs. Daniel Rose, she had lived in West Springfield and Agawam before moving to Fort Lauderdale.

She leaves her husband, Roland Suleski; four sons, John E. Rose of Sykesville, Maryland, Daniel R. Rose of Lake Placid, New York, and Paul C. Rose and David A. Rose of Agawam; a sister, Alma Ouimet of Coral Springs, Florida; and three grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at the Mason's Chapel, Dania, Florida.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Rosina Scagliarini

Rosina (Limotti) Scagliarini, 93, formerly of Pine Grove Street, Springfield, died at an Agawam nursing home.

She and her husband co-owned Ceaser's Restaurant in Great Barrington during the 1950's and 1960's.

She was born in Verona, Italy, and came to Springfield in the 1920's.

She was a communicant of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church.

Her husband, Ceaser, died in 1971. She was also predeceased by her son, Robert, in 1991, and her daughter, Gloria Scagliarini, in 1992.

She leaves a daughter-in-law, Norma Scagliarini, of Great Barrington, and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at Tazzini Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Naomi M. Chaisson

Naomi M. (Vendovelli) DeVall Chaisson, 94, of Hall Street, Feeding Hills, died at a Westfield nursing home.

She worked many years as an assembler for the former Rex Chain Belt Co. in Springfield, retiring in 1968.

Born and educated in Springfield, she moved to Feeding Hills in 1951.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills, and was a member of the Senior Center in Agawam.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Howard DeVall, in 1958.

She leaves her husband, Leonard Chaisson; a son, Richard DeVall of Feeding Hills; a daughter, Edythe Chiba of Agawam; three brothers, Anthony of Springfield, Armand of East Longmeadow, and Renato of Avon, Connecticut; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Evelyn Schouweiler

Evelyn (Haber) Schouweiler, 70, of Enfield, CT, and formerly of Windsor Street in Thompsonville, CT, died at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford.

She was born in Westfield and lived there and in Agawam.

She graduated from Westfield High School and Worcester Business School.

She leaves a sister, Leonora Chmura of Enfield; a niece, Elaine Schuster of New Hampshire; and a nephew, Ronald Chmura of Enfield.

The funeral was held at Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels and in St. Adalbert's Church, with burial in St. Adalbert's Cemetery.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 9...

Shirley L. Buynicki October 12, 1924 - April 6, 1997



He Only Takes The Best

*God saw she was getting tired
and a cure was not to be.
So he put his arms around her
and whispered, "Come with me."*

*With tear-filled eyes we watched her
suffer and fade away.
Although we loved her deeply,
we could not make her stay.*

*A golden heart stopped beating,
hard-working hands put to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
he only takes the best.*

**Never forgotten, always missed,
fondly remembered -**

By her family
Matt, Steve & Gayle, Cheryl & Steve, Gary & Sharon
Grandchildren Steve Jr., Jacklyn,
Ryan, Matthew, Adam, Kevin & David

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Various
Containers!

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OBITUARIES - from Page 8...

Feliksa Vass

Feliksa (Zajac) Vass, 70, of Southwick, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Stefankovicz, Poland, she lived in Springfield and Westfield before moving to Southwick in 1960.

She attended the Bethany Assembly of God Church in Agawam.

She leaves her husband, Vilmos Vass; a son, Joseph of Westfield; a sister, Stacia Sosler in England; and a grandson.

The funeral was held at Southwick-Forastiere Funeral Home, with the burial in Pine Hill Cemetery in Westfield.

Frederick E. Giguere

Frederick E. Giguere, 73, of Belmont, New Hampshire, died in Burlington, Vermont.

He was a 52-year carpenter, and belonged to Springfield (Massachusetts) Local 108 of the Carpenters' Union. He also was an apprentice coordinator for several years.

Born and schooled in Springfield, he lived in that city, as well as West Springfield and Agawam, before moving to Belmont in 1988.

He leaves his wife, Theresa (Dahlke) Giguere; two sons, Frederick of Kissimmee, Florida, and

Lawrence of Queechee, Vermont; two brothers, Ray and Roger, and a sister, Jacqueline Maynard, of Enfield; six grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

The funeral was held at West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home, and the burial was at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Box 3704, Memphis, Tennessee 38103.

Lucille DePersis

Lucille (DeRosa) DePersis, 88, of 1200 Suffield Street, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

She was the owner of the Pink Cricket, a catering business, in Binghamton, New York, for 30 years, and retired in 1986.

Born in Browndale, Pennsylvania, she spent most of her life in Binghamton before moving to Agawam two years ago.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church in Binghamton.

She was predeceased by her husband, Bernard.

She leaves a son, Bernard of Enfield; a sister, Irene Pacilio of Binghamton; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Chase Funeral Home of Binghamton and the church, followed by the burial in Calvary Cemetery at Johnson City, New York.

Hafey Springfield Chapels was in charge of the local arrangements.

Keenan Endorses Safe Drinking Water Products

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan recently supported the establishment of a new "drinking water" State Revolving Fund (SRF), which passed in the House of Representatives.

Keenan said, "This program will assist municipalities in meeting federal Safe Drinking Water Act Standards."

The program will provide the state match, through FY 2003, for \$32.4 million to leverage \$225 million in federal funds. The revolving funds will be used to provide loans, well below market rates, to municipalities in order to finance the construction of drinking water projects, such as treatment facilities, source water protection, and distribution system improvements.

Other improvements include contract assistance equal to 50 percent of the total cost of each drinking water project, allowing for "zero interest" loans to communities.

In addition, the bill provides up to \$80 million to fund the costs of drinking water filtration facilities that were approved by DEP, and built after January 1992 but before the implementation of the SRF program.

The drinking water SRF program will be modeled identically to the "clean water" SRF program, which was established in 1989 to help bring local public sewage systems into compliance with the federal Clean Water Act. The state has invested \$108 million in the clean water SRF program since its beginnings in 1991. This investment has resulted in over \$1 billion in loans.

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Tax Tip Of The Week...

Filing Your Taxes Electronically

More people are putting away their pencils and tax forms and reaching for computer keyboards or telephones. Here's why.

Last year, over 19 million people chose to file their tax returns electronically, either by computer or by phone. The Internal Revenue Service's electronic filing system, called "IRS e-file," lets tax professionals and transmission services accepted by the IRS send their clients' tax return data from their computers straight to IRS computers.

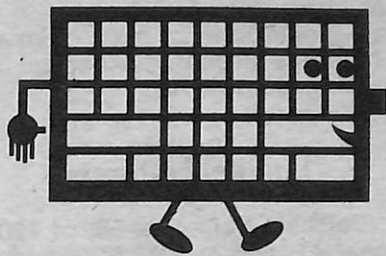
In most states with income taxes, people can electronically file their state and federal taxes together. The IRS has teamed up with state tax agencies to offer this one-stop service. Last year, 4.3 million people electronically filed joint federal state returns.

People using tax preparation software on their personal computers can file the finished returns using a modem. Of those who filed electronically last year, 366,000 filed from their personal computers.

More than 4.7 million people used the IRS TeleFile system in 1997. TeleFile let eligible people with simple tax returns file by phone. They call a toll-free number using a Touch-Tone phone and enter total wages, interest, tax withheld, and other information from the TeleFile tax record.

IRS computers figure income, tax, and any refund or tax owed while the person is on the phone. The IRS mails a TeleFile tax booklet to those whose previous tax returns indicate they may be eligible for TeleFile.

Here's what's so good about IRS e-file — the error rate is less than one percent. This means people who use an electronic filing option are less likely to get a notice from the IRS because of



mistakes typically associated with paper filing.

IRS computers automatically check electronic returns for errors and missing information before accepting them. And the IRS acknowledges acceptance of the returns.

When filing electronically, those who owe taxes can file when they're ready, then send in the payment by April 15th. Those getting refunds will have them sooner than paper return filers, with Direct Deposit into a savings or checking account ensuring the fastest service.

For people who still want to lick a stamp, there's Form 1040PC. It's a print option that comes with many tax preparation software programs.

Unlike traditional paper forms that may have many blank lines, the 1040PC option prints only the lines that have entries. The result is a three-column list that fits on one or two pages to mail to the IRS.

People should always double check their returns whether they file the traditional way or pick one of these options. Keep in mind that using correct Social Security numbers prevents processing delays. And a complete return address and sufficient postage get mailed returns to the IRS on time.

Tax Assistance Is Available At The Agawam Senior Center

The Agawam Senior Center announces that it will be offering tax assistance on Wednesday mornings through April 15th from 9:00 to 11:15 a.m.

To schedule an appointment, call the Center at 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

Melconian Supports Safety Restrictions For Young Drivers

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced her support of legislation regulating junior operating licenses, requiring driver education, and implementing other safety restrictions on young drivers.

"This legislation is a safety measure designed to cut down on the number of accidents and fatalities in Massachusetts," Melconian said. "The number one killer of teenagers in America are cars. An automobile is a deadly weapon, and new drivers need time and training to hone their skills."

The bills, which has passed the House of Representatives and is currently in the Senate Ways & Means Committee, would require completion of driver education for all license applicants up to age 18. It would mandate that teens complete 12 hours of driver training with a parent or guardian in addition to driver training.

If adopted, the legislation would require six months of at-fault crash free driving before a Junior Operator's License could be obtained. It would also prevent teens from transporting other teens during the first six months of the Junior Operating License without a licensed adult 21 or over in the vehicle. Teens (16.5-18) would be prohibited from driving from 12:00 a.m.-5:00 a.m. unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. Under current law, the hours are 1:00 a.m.-4:00 a.m.

"These are sound, common sense provisions that should increase safety on our roads," Melconian said. "The responsibilities of operating a motor vehicle need to be accepted gradually, and after the proper training has been obtained."

* * *

REMEMBER — our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!!

* * *

Reception For Ashe Slated For April 16th

The Committee to Re-elect Michael J. Ashe, Jr. will hold a reception in honor of Sheriff Michael J. Ashe, Jr. on Thursday, April 16th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Chez Josef in Agawam.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Ticket information is available by calling James Tremble at 567-1628, and tickets will also be available at the door.

Best hometown news - Advertiser News!

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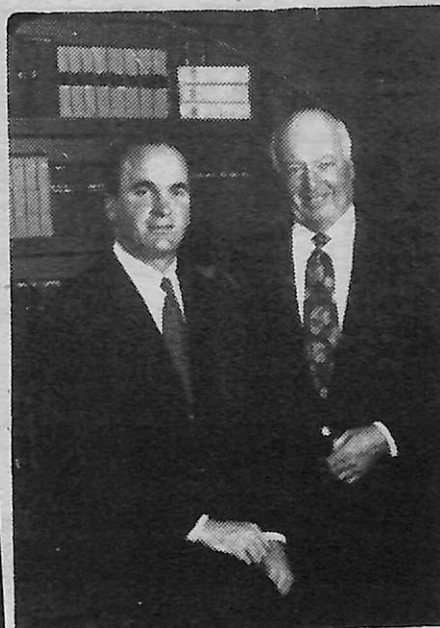
- Visitation
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Berkshire Power's Civic Partnership Dinner...



BERKSHIRE POWER held its Civic Partnership Dinner with the Town of Agawam on Friday, March 20th, at The Oaks on Suffield Street and made donations to the School Department and the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs. From left to right: Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, Joann McGeoghan (local representative for Berkshire Power), Ken Roberts (Chief Operating Officer, Power Development Corporation), School Superintendent Frank Ameruso, and School Committee members Susan Pettazzoni and Teresa Kozloski. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



KEN ROBERTS AND JOANN MCGEOGHAN look on as Randy Wu (Senior Vice-President of El Paso Energy Management) presents a check to Mayor Johnson. Also present are Town Councilors Nancy Thompson and Jill Simpson and Michael Armitage (President of Power Development Corporation). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



JOANN MCGEOGHAN with Ken Roberts (Chief Operating Officer, Power Development Corporation) and Michael Armitage (President of Power Development Corporation). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Families

"A Bit O' The Green" At Heritage Hall South...



ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18TH, the day after St. Patrick's Day, performers from the Claddagh School of Irish Dancing — including Meaghan Mulvagh, Sean Quinn, and Erin Mulvagh (left photo) — entertained residents of Heritage Hall's South Building. The Claddagh School is from the John Boyle O'Reilly Club in Springfield, and the dancers' teacher is Mary Quinn. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Best
local
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For Take-Out Call
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At Heritage Hall...



KELLY HEIDEN, Teen Miss Agawam 1997, volunteers her time at Heritage Hall Nursing Home and is pictured above with Kate, one of Heritage Hall's residents. Although her reign ended on March 31st (presstime), Kelly will continue to help in the recreation hall and encourage others to get involved in the programs Heritage Hall offers our elders.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 6th: Pork cutlet with cheese, ziti with sauce, broccoli and cauliflower, garlic bread, fresh pears.

Tuesday, April 7th: Swedish meatballs, parsley buttered noodles, mixed vegetables, oatmeal bread, birthday cake.

Wednesday, April 8th: New dish — turkey roll-ups, stuffing with gravy, butternut squash, cranberry sauce, chocolate pudding.

Thursday, April 9th: Baked chicken leg, sweet potato, green beans, whole wheat bread, apricots.

Friday, April 10th: Seafood Newburg with egg noodles, cole slaw, rye bread, applesauce.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

Agawan Garden Club To Host Program By Landscape Architect

Nancy Denig of Northampton, a landscape architect, will give a slide presentation entitled "A View From the Window" at the April 21st meeting of the Agawan Garden Club, 7:30 p.m. at the Captain Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam.

Nancy will show slides and discuss planting and gardens from the perspective of the view from the house and from the entrance to the property.

Anyone interested may attend for a \$1 fee and there will be refreshments.

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"Game Night" For Young Adults At Agawam Library

Agawam and Feeding Hills students from the Middle School or Junior High are invited to participate in "Game Night" on Monday, April 6th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library.

Popular board games like AgawamOpoly, backgammon, Scrabble, checkers, and chess will be available. Refreshments will be served.

Registration is a must. Please call 789-1550, or visit the library at 750 Cooper Street, Agawam.

Boy Scout Troop 82 To Hold Car Wash At Ag. Congregational

Boy Scout Troop 82 will be having a car wash and can/bottle drive on Saturday, April 11th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

The cost for a "sparkling" car wash will be \$2.50.

If you would like to donate cans or bottles to the Troop, please bring them to the church between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

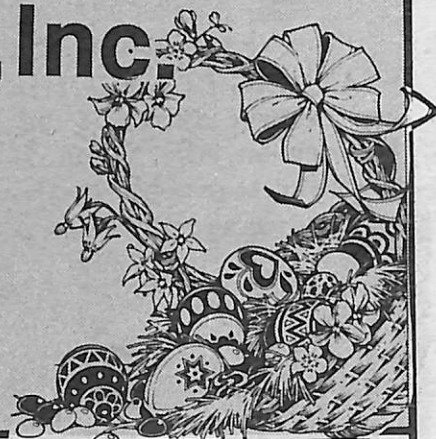
The Troop thanks you in advance for your support.

Why not surprise your loved ones with a birthday ad in The AAN???

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White Zinfandel
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\$5.99

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J & B
Scotch
\$24.99

(1.75 Ltr.)

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Plus Deposit
(30 Pk. Cans)

Gallo
Livingston Cellars
White Zinfandel Chardonnay
\$8.95

(3 Liters)

Ballatore
Gran Spumante
\$4.99

(750 ml.)

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Coors
Extra Gold
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Plus Deposit
(30 Pk. Cans)

Kendall Jackson
Savignon Blanc
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Chardonnay
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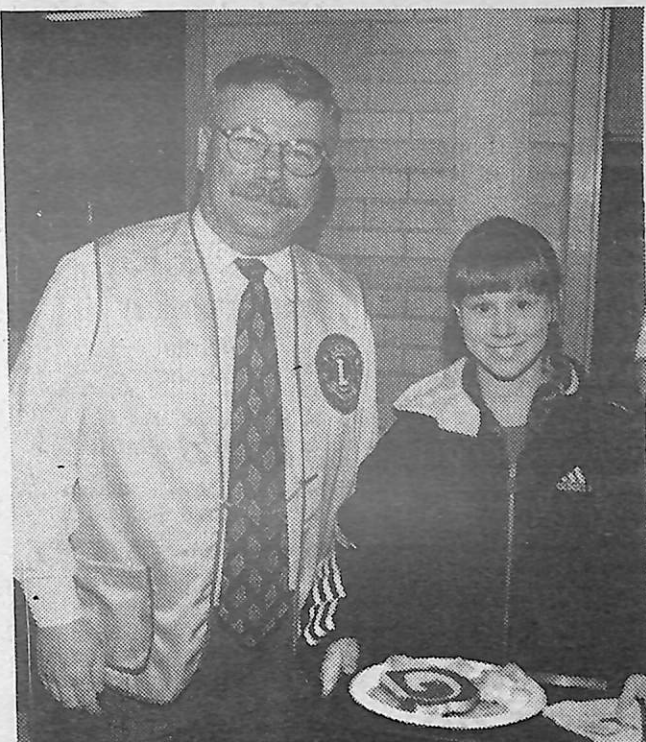
Agawam Lions Hold Corned Beef Supper...



STANDING BEHIND THE DESSERT TABLE at the Agawam Lions Club's corned beef and cabbage dinner at the Agawam Middle School on Wednesday, March 18th: Joann McGeoghan, Alice Olson, Terry Angotti, Marianne Campbell, Priscilla Peterson, and Helen Merklein. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



KIDS LOVE CORNED BEEF!!! Above: Gabriella Spear, 2½, Bobby Johnson, 6, and three month-old Michael Johnson. Below: Alex Taupier, 8. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



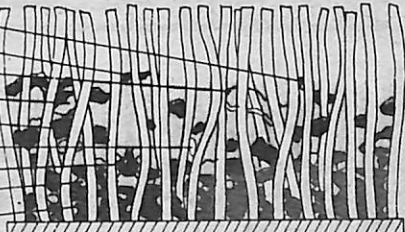
IN LEFT PHOTO: Lions Club President Bob Loomis with Joanne Brignoli. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Lions Club "chefs" John Negrucchi, Joe Guy, and Charlie Calabrese. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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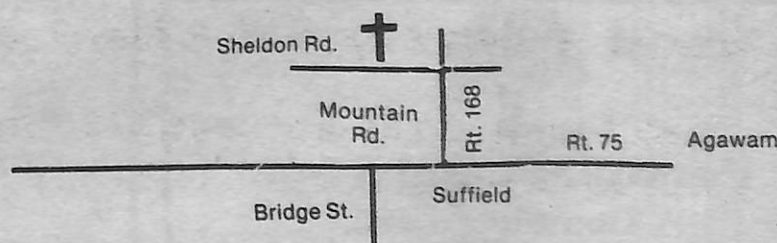
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For copies of his photos in this edition, contact AAN Photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053.

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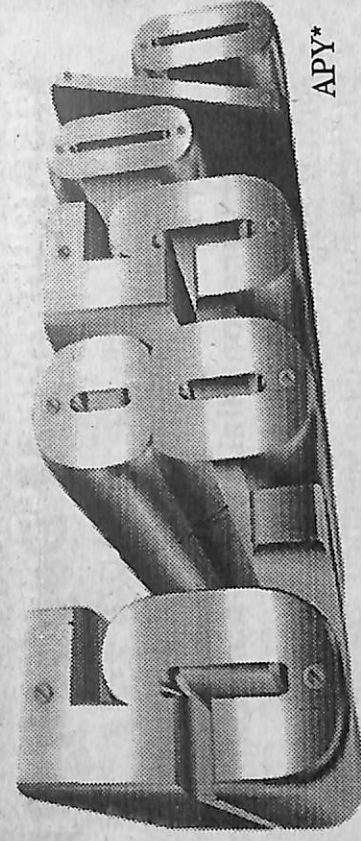
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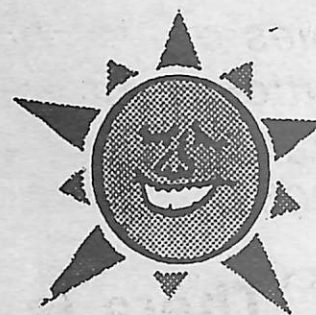
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Church News

Craft Fair At Agawam Baptist Church...



DESPITE THE EARLY SPRING "SNOWSTORM" on Saturday, March 21st, Agawam Baptist Church held its craft fair. Among the vendors who "braved the elements" and were on hand to sell their crafts were Kim and Sara Craven (photo above), and Kathy Savageau and Trish Kappenman. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



ALEXANDRA IVEY, MARIA SANTANIELLO, AND BYRON SCHLEMMER enticed younger shoppers with a variety of collectible baseball cards and the ever-popular "Beanie Babies." Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Church News - continued...



Reflections...
submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

God's Grace: Neither Cheap Nor Easy

Some people think that Christianity is a religion of cheap and easy grace. All one has to do is say "I'm sorry," and all is forgiven.

Those outside the Church complain such grace is too cheap. Some inside the Church would try to exploit such grace, effectively making it seem easy to sin and get away with it. Both positions grossly miss the point of God's grace.

The grace of God is made available to us for one simple reason: we need it! God offers His grace of forgiveness and restoration because we need to be forgiven, and we need to be restored. Who among us can claim we have lived perfectly? If someone were to be so foolish as to try to make that claim, their friends and family could easily dispute it.

The grace of God's forgiveness and restoration may appear to be cheap and easy, but that is only because it cost God so much in the first place. It was not easy for Jesus Christ to be crucified for you and for me.

Some people have complained that "Old Sparky," the electric chair in Florida, represents cruel and unusual punishment for prisoners being executed. On the other side, advocates of the electric chair claim it serves as a useful deterrent to those who might commit a capital crime. Either way, in comparison with crucifixion, "Old Sparky" is a cakewalk.

The ancient Roman government understood all too well the concept of deterrence. Crucifixion was the ultimate deterrence for criminals. A person being crucified basically suffocates in the

middle of the air.

As the person's arms give out and he can no longer hold himself up, he starts to choke to death. For hours, in some case days, the struggle between exhaustion in the arms and suffocation played out, until the person finally died. It was awful.

The only thing more awful than a criminal dying this way was for the condemned man to be completely innocent.

Some 700 years before Jesus Christ was crucified for your sins and mine, the prophet Isaiah described Him with these words:

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For He grew up before Him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces, He was despised, and we held Him of no account.

But He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities, upon Him was the punishment that made us whole. By a perversion of justice He was taken away. They made His grave with the wicked and His tomb with the rich. My servant shall make many righteous. He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

All of the elements of Isaiah's prophecy came to pass in the event of Jesus' crucifixion. Certain things are beyond dispute. He was beaten beyond recognition by Herod's guards.

The crowd insisted that Barabbas, a convicted killer, be set loose instead of Jesus. His lungs and heart were crushed when He was crucified. His body was placed in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, a wealthy man.

The only question left for us to answer is one that must be considered by each of us individually: will we count ourselves among those whom Jesus made righteous? Will we accept by faith the grace which, though it might appear to be cheap and easy, cost God so much?

Rev. Monahan's "Reflections" is a weekly feature of The AAN...

News & Notes From St. John's Parish

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: 8:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m.; **Stations of the Cross:** Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.; Fridays 4:00 p.m. (children) & 7:30 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S OVER-60 CLUB

On **May 7th**, the group is going to **Mystic Aquarium & Seaport**. There are still plenty of seats. The trip, including lobster dinner, is \$51. Call Barbara (786-7037) or Lil (786-9586).

AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES CLUB

Meetings every **2nd Wednesday** at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested should call Frank (786-2764) or Kay B. (786-8442).

April 4th: Murder Mystery Dinner, F.H. Congregational Church, \$15. Call Denise at 786-7783.

April 8th: Monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. Appalachian Trail slides by Henry Lafleur. Call Carol (789-2843) or Joanne (786-1583).

The next meeting of the **St. John's Guild** will be on **April 7th at 7:30 p.m.** in the Fr. Joyce Room. There will be a special Lenten program. Guests are welcome.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Each year in May, we elect one-third of our Parish Council. Anyone interested in being nominated is asked to call the Rectory at 786-8105.

Ag. Congregational Has Tickets To West Side Story

The Agawam Congregational Church has tickets available for *West Side Story* at the Springfield Symphony Hall. See *West Side Story* live on stage!

Tickets are available at only \$29.50 (side lodges) for the Saturday, June 6th 3:00 p.m. performance.

Order your tickets today by calling the church office at 786-7111.

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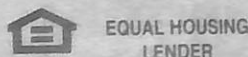
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Church News - continued...

Holy Week Services At First Baptist

Palm Sunday will be celebrated this Sunday morning, April 5th, at 9:30 a.m. at Agawam First Baptist Church.

Rev. Richard Barnes' sermon topic will be "Loud Stones," using scriptural text from Luke 19:28-40. Vivian Roberts will lead the responsive reading; greeters will include Marge & Clark Greenough and Helen Kane.

A social time of coffee and conversation will follow the worship service. Classes for all ages will be held until 11:45 a.m., with nursery care available.

At 7:00 p.m., the final session of the joint Lenten series, "A Way Through Lent," will be held at the Baptist Church.

Participating in the leadership of the study will be Pastor Rick Barnes, Rev. Curt Fuller of the Agawam Congregational Church, and Dan Pender. Child care is provided.

There will be a service of tenebrae on Maundy Thursday, April 9th, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Communion will be served by the Board of Deacons.

An ecumenical Good Friday service will be held at the Agawam Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m. Our members are encouraged to attend this service. Rev. Barnes will participate in the service.

On our calendar this week:

Sunday, April 5th: 6:30 p.m., Religious Education Board meeting.

Monday, April 6th: 7:00 p.m., Sunshine Circle; 7:30 p.m., Amicitia Circle (Lockhart Parlor); 7:30 p.m., Sister-to-Sister Group; 7:30 p.m., Men's Group (Davis Hall).

Tuesday, April 7th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group; 7:00 p.m., Divorce Recovery Program.

Wednesday, April 8th: 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; 7:30 p.m., Church Committee.

Thursday, April 9th: 12:00 noon, Women's Luncheon (Agawam Congregational Church); 7:00 p.m., Maundy Thursday Communion Service (in the First Baptist sanctuary).

Friday, April 10th: 7:00 p.m., Good Friday Service at Agawam Methodist Church, 459 Mill Street.

Coming up: Family Night — Sunday, April 19th, at 6:00 p.m.

An evening of fun and fellowship for the whole family. After a covered dish supper, members and friends will share their talents. Come and be a part of the festivities.

Easter Preparations Are Under Way At Valley Community Church In Feeding Hills

The time of Lent brings with it many emotions as we prepare our hearts and minds for the Easter season.

This Palm Sunday, Pastor Steve Dennehy will share his insight on the significance of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. His message will be taken from the gospel of Luke 19:28-40. Holy Communion will also be observed. All are warmly invited to worship at 9:30 a.m.

Children's Church will be filled with the many sights and sounds (and smells) as all our children begin preparing supper for the Springfield Loaves & Fishes. What once started out as a trial experiment, has developed into a frequent commitment as church children eagerly request to help feed the hungry. Children's Sunday School has been canceled so the children can complete their food preparation.

Coffee and Fellowship will be held at 10:30 a.m. in Dunn Hall for all church family and visitors. We especially invite our visitors to attend and to find answers to any questions you may have about the church life.

Adult Bible class begins sharply at 11:00 a.m. Come and learn more about the book of Daniel!

The Ladies Club will meet on Tuesday, April 7th, at the home of Dot Wells. Final preparations for the Good Friday Bake Sale, as well as ideas for Mother's Day, will be discussed.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. and is open to all ladies who attend the church. For more information or directions, call Dot at 786-6031.

Both Junior and Senior Choirs will meet at the church on Wednesday evening for rehearsal. The Junior Choir begins at 6:15 p.m. and will fill the church with their joyful songs.

The Senior Choir, which starts at 7:00 p.m., picks up where the children leave off as their har-

mony resounds throughout the Sanctuary.

A Maundy Thursday Service will be held at the church on Thursday beginning at 7:00 p.m.

We invite all in our town community to come and share in the celebration of the Last Supper.

The Ladies Club will once again be holding their annual Good Friday Bake Sale at Ames Department Store on Springfield Street.

The sale begins at 10:00 a.m. and continues until all "goodies" are sold.

Prayers will be abounding in the church on Good Friday, beginning at 3:00 p.m., as the annual Good Friday Prayer Vigil begins.

This annual tradition began three years ago and has continued, not only because of a great response from the congregation, but because the congregation has seen their prayers answered. The prayer vigil ends at sunrise on Easter morning.

If you have not yet signed up for an hour (or more) of uninterrupted time alone with God, call the church office at 786-2445 or Kathy Manley (789-1376) for available time slots. There are only a few time slots left.

There will be a Good Friday Service beginning at 7:00 p.m. We again invite all our neighbors and friends to attend this moving and emotional service.

Valley Community Church is located high on a hilltop at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

For more information about any of the Easter events, please call the church office at 786-2445, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Catholic Women's Club Of Agawam To Hold Its Next Meeting On Monday, April 13th

The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will meet on Monday evening, April 13th in the Parish Center of St. John the Evangelist Church at 7:30 p.m.

Following a brief business meeting, program chairwoman Eleanor Balboni will introduce Nancy Doucette, who will be speaking on "A Love of

Dolls," which will include a short history of dolls, the fun of doll collecting, making dolls (cloth and porcelain), reproduction of antique dolls, and restoration of dolls.

Members are invited to bring a doll from their childhood and share its history.

Hospitality chairwoman is Janet Wysocki.

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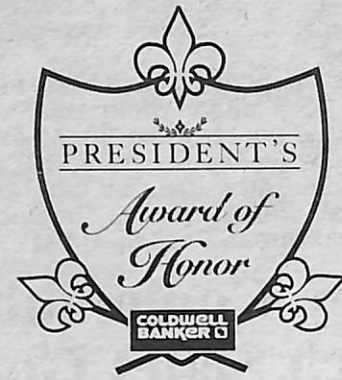
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Church News - continued...

Experience Good Friday At Valley Community Church

Good Friday has become a time of deep, personal contemplation for members of Valley Community Church. It is a time for each member to reflect on Jesus' crucifixion, to imagine what thoughts and feelings he must have felt as he, step by step, carried his cross to Calvary.

We perceive his pain as the nails are driven into his flesh and the taunting words are hurled at him. We weep as he struggled to breathe on that cross, and we cry out as we come to acknowledge that he did that for us, each and every one of us.

We invite all from our town to come and share in the pain of Good Friday, to be convicted in your hearts with the true meaning of this special day and to understand just how important God's children are to Him that He would sacrifice His own Son for us.

Pastor Steve Dennehy will move you and he will cause you to look deep within yourself as we share those final hours in the life of our savior. The Good Friday Service begins at 7:00 p.m.

Valley Community Church is an inter-denominational church and is located at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Valley Community Church Slates Good Friday Bake Sale

Do you get discouraged during the holiday season because there just doesn't seem to be enough time to do all that has to be done? Do unexpected visitors drop by and cause you to panic because you haven't yet started doing your Easter baking? Well, you can utter a sigh of relief and slow down a bit, for we have an answer for you.

The Ladies Club at Valley Community Church has once again enlisted the aid of all the great bakers of the church to help fill their tables at the annual Good Friday Bake Sale. Holiday recipes as well as holiday craft ideas are being discussed, shared, and anticipated as church members prepare for the Bake Sale.

The Bake Sale will be held on Good Friday, April 10th, at Ames Department Store on Springfield Street from 10:00 a.m. until everything is sold. Food items will be arriving throughout the day, so plan to stop by and pick up a homemade, scrumptious, yummy, and luscious dessert item for your holiday table. Then relax and enjoy the holiday!

Weekly Calendar Of Events And Activities From Agawam Congregational Church

This Sunday, April 5th, is Palm Sunday. The Service of Worship continues at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be "The Passionate Way," taken from Text: Luke 19:28-40. The Old Testament Reading will be Psalm 31:9-16. The Children's Message will be "Everyone Loves a Parade."

Palms will be distributed following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. Reminder: grades 7-12 meet at 9:00 a.m., and grades kindergarten through 6 meet at 10:30 a.m.

The Adult Education Class continues to meet each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Library. The Christian Education Director, Dan Pender, will lead this week's session, "My Trust is in You."

All are welcome to attend.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is a canned meal (stew, hash, etc.).

Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

"A Way Through Lent," a joint Lenten Adult Education Series with the First Baptist Church of Agawam, continues this week, with the focus on the Passion.

The final session is on Sunday, April 5th, at 7:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Agawam. The series will be led by Rev. Fuller, Rev. Barnes, and Dan Pender, Youth/Christian Education Director.

For more information concerning the series, call the church office at 786-7111.

Faith Bible Church Invites Public To Good Friday & Easter Events

On Friday, April 10th, at 7:00 p.m., Faith Bible Church, located on Shoemaker Lane, invites all to come out and witness "the final 24 hours of the Lord." This dramatic event should touch all who attend.

Easter is a time of celebration, but also an historical event that some people never will understand fully until witnessing it first-hand and in person. Everyone is cordially invited and welcome as we will begin our journey at 7:00 p.m. We don't feel anyone will be disappointed.

We will celebrate the resurrection on Easter Sunday at an 11:00 a.m. service. All are welcome.

The Catering Committee is sponsoring a Baked Chicken Breast Dinner on Saturday, April 4th, at 5:30 p.m.

For reservations, please call the church office, 786-7111, or Jerry Hamel, 786-2908. Reservations close Friday, April 3rd.

The April One-Day Vacation Bible Camp, "The Easter Story Lives," is Wednesday, April 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Children from pre-school through high school are welcome to attend. Registration forms are available in the church office.

For more information, call the church office, 786-7111.

Boy Scout Troop No. 82 will hold a Car Wash and Can Drive on Saturday, April 11th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church parking lot.

Stop by to have your car washed (\$2.50) and drop off your cans and bottles to help the scouts fund their activities.

The Easter Sunday Services Schedule is as follows: Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m. (with the First Baptist Church of Agawam at the Springfield Turnverein on Garden Street), 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

The Ladies Aid Society Annual Spring Festival is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mark your calendars today! Crafters are wanted to display their wares.

Call the church office at 786-7111 for more information.

St. Anthony's Holy Rosary Society To Host Guest Artist

The next monthly meeting of St. Anthony of Padua's Holy Rosary Society will be held on Tuesday, April 14th, at 7:30 p.m. in the church hall.

Following the business meeting, Florida Tangocci, past president and current vice-president of the Agawam Community Artists, will present a program titled "La Vie Est Un Art — Life Is An Art!" Her artistry is well-known in the community and frequently exhibited.

St. Theresa and St. Anthony women are invited to attend this presentation, which will start at about 8:10 p.m.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon — AAN!!!



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Church News - continued...

Easter Week Observances At Ag. United Methodist

The events of Palm Sunday and immediately after Palm Sunday, as they occurred in the life of Christ, call for celebration. The entry of Jesus Christ is remembered.

On Sunday, April 5th, worship begins at 9:30 a.m. at Agawam United Methodist Church. The celebration begins with children leading the procession, carrying palm leaves, and singing during worship.

The Holy Thursday service and administration of the Lord's Supper will commence at 6:30 p.m.

On Good Friday, April 10th, at 7:00 p.m., the ecumenical Good Friday service will be held at the Agawam United Methodist Church. Speakers from different denominations will lead the thoughts of the worshippers as the congregation meditates on the seven last words of Jesus from the Cross.

Easter Sunday (April 12th) is the most celebrative day of the Christian year. A new approach is being taken as a cast of adults and youths bring the message of Easter in drama. The scene is spiritually moving and puts us right at the place of the action, and we are able to share (with the earliest witnesses) the experience, meaning, and faith of the resurrection.

Please reserve the date and time.

The Agawam United Methodist Church is located at 459 Mill Street in Feeding Hills.

Shoe Sale To Be Held At St. John's Social Center

A shoe sale will be held on Tuesday evening, April 14th, from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the Social Center of St. John's Church. This semi-annual event is sponsored by St. John's Guild.

All women's shoes are \$12, and the public is invited.

**REMEMBER — our
deadline is each
Tuesday at 12:00
noon ... AAN!!!**

Preparing For The Easter Holiday...



ON TUESDAY, MARCH 17TH, members of the Agawam Council of Churches (pictured above) gathered for a meeting at Heritage Woods. The members are busy preparing for Easter week activities and urge local parishioners to support their respective churches during this most holy of seasons. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Operation Friendship Slates 'Mystery Dinner'

Operation Friendship will be presenting "Dorothy Dinsmore, Gossip Columnist" on Saturday, April 4th, at 6:30 p.m.

Performed by the Drama Studio Ensemble, the plot revolves around the story of a gossip columnist who has information on several members of the jet set. Dorothy hosts an evening dinner party where she tells her guests exactly what she plans to do with the information she has dug up unless they contribute to her "retirement fund."

The menu for the evening will be breast of capon, roast beef, or vegetarian. Tickets are \$15 and all funds will support local youths' travel this summer.

Call 786-7898 or 789-2410 for reservations and ticket information. Please leave a message if you get an answering machine.

Holy Week Schedule At Sacred Heart Church In F. Hills

Palm Sunday: Palms will be blessed and distributed at all Masses as follows — Saturday, 4:00 p.m.; Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Thursday: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday: Children's Service, 11:00 a.m.; Dramatic presentation of Jesus's words from the Cross; Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday: Blessing of Easter Food, 12:00 noon; The Vigil of Easter, 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday: Eucharistic Celebrations — 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. All are welcome!

• Two Winners Take All
Over \$3,500 In Prize \$\$\$

Friday Bingo

**Immaculate
Conception Church**

**Doors Open At 5:30 P.M.
W.T.A. 7:00 P.M.**

For Information, Call 733-8747
Or Check At J & T's

*Additional Parking—
Rear Of The Rectory*



Remember When The Word "Service" Meant Something?

We remember when people took the time to serve others. Our family has been helping families here for many years. As our town has grown, we have grown too, with more specialized services, such as out-of-town arrangements, pre-arrangements, cremations and a grief recovery program.

Even though we have grown, our dedication to service is still the same as it was years ago.

**COLONIAL
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FUNERAL HOME
of Agawam



985 Main Street
Agawam
786-2600

Church News - continued...

News And Notes (Including Easter Week Events) From Feeding Hills Congregational Church

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m. The lectionary readings for April 5th, Palm Sunday, will be Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 118:2, 19-29, Phillipians 2:5-11, and Luke 19:28-40. Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "If We Are Quiet..." Children should attend worship with their parents leaving at a designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

This Sunday, April 5th, Mission Moment will recognize the efforts of our members on behalf of Open Pantry. The Board of Stewardship and Missions will sponsor a cake after worship to further honor the works of our church for the Open Pantry. We hope you can be there!

The 148th Annual Meeting of the Hampden Association of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ will take place on Monday, April 27, 1998 at the First Church in Ludlow. The tentative agenda includes dinner, business meeting, and worship with the Reverend Bennie E. Whiten, Jr., Conference Minister and

President, preaching. ***

The Board of Christian Education would like to remind everyone that their collection of Pennies for People will continue throughout the season of Lent. Please contribute to the Sunday School effort to send a physically challenged youth to camp.

The Wednesday morning Scripture Project Bible Study group will meet again on April 8th at 9:30 a.m. The series will continue for five more weeks. Meeting time is flexible; please speak to Rev. Rob if there is a better time for you to meet.

Operation Friendship will present "Dorothy Dinsmore, Gossip Columnist" April 4th beginning at 6:30 p.m. Funds raised from this dinner theater performance by the Drama Studio Ensemble will support local youths' travel this summer. Call 786-7898 or 789-2410 for reservations and ticket information.

Special dates to remember:

April 9th, Maundy Thursday: A potluck supper will be held at this church at 6:30 p.m., followed by

a worship service.

April 10th, Good Friday: An ecumenical service will take place at the Agawam Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m.

April 12th, Easter: A Sunrise Service will take place at Valley Community Church. Following the service, worshipers will gather for breakfast at FHCC. A Service of Worship, including an Easter Cantata, will take place at FHCC at 10:00 a.m.

On the calendar:

Thursday, April 2nd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Friday, April 3rd: 7:00 p.m., Radio Club

Saturday, April 4th: OF Mystery Dinner. Change clocks ahead before you go to bed!

Sunday, April 5th: 10:00 a.m., Palm Sunday

Monday, April 6th: 4:00-5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Council

Tuesday, April 7th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, April 8th: 9:30 a.m., Bible Study; 12:00 noon, Desserts needed for Open Pantry; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, April 9th: Maundy Thursday; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Check our classified ads in each edition...

Jeremy Boettcher To Perform At Church In N.Y.

Jeremy Boettcher, a 14 year-old homeschool student from Agawam, has been invited to perform a concert in Cambridge, New York.

The concert will take place April 5th at 6:00 p.m. at the Open Bible Baptist Church. Admission is free. There will be a love offering to help support Jeremy's scholarship fund.

Jeremy plays piano regularly at his home church in Westfield. He also has been a guest musician at other churches in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Jeremy studies sacred, classical, and jazz piano, cello and baroque recorder. He sings in a homeschool choir and plays in a chamber ensemble.

Jeremy teaches piano and is looking for hire at weddings and receptions. He also composes music and is looking forward to competing in two songwriting contests this spring.

Jeremy plans to graduate high school early through an accelerated program and attend a Christian college, where he will major in music ministry. His future plans are to work with youth at risk through music.

Jeremy is available to play a piano/cello program for area churches. A love offering will help support his college fund.

Check
our
classified
pages
every
week for
FAST
FAST
results!

holy week AT ST. DAVID'S



PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 5

8:00 a.m. - Eucharist with Palms
10:00 a.m. - Palm Procession and Eucharist

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK - APRIL 6

6:45 p.m. - Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m. - Prayer Meeting

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - APRIL 7

6:45 p.m. - An Order for Evening

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - APRIL 8

6:45 p.m. - Tenebrae Service & Prayers for Healing

MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 9

5:30 p.m. - Seder Supper
7:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 10

10 a.m. - Children's Service
12:15 p.m. - Ecumenical Service
7:00 p.m. - Good Friday Office & Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 11

11:00 a.m. - Caregivers' Eucharist
5:00 p.m. - Children's Eucharist w/ Special Youth Music Ministers

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 12

8:00 a.m. - Festival Eucharist
10:00 a.m. - Festival Eucharist w/Special Music Ministers

JOIN US THIS WEEK AS WE WAIT FOR HIS RETURN !

ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

699 SPRINGFIELD STREET • FEEDING HILLS, MA • (413) 786-6133

Worship Services: Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 8 am & 10 am

Sunday School & Nursery Care: Sunday 10 am

The Reverend Len Cowan

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AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET

USDA CHOICE

Jordan's Skinless & Shankless Hams

Whole	\$1.89 Lb.
Butt Half	\$2.19 Lb.
Shank Half	\$2.49 Lb.
Center Slices	\$2.99 Lb.
Butt Portion	\$1.69 Lb. (4 Lb. Net Wt.)
Shank Portion	\$1.79 Lb. (4 Lb. Net Wt.)

Boneless Spoon Roast	\$2.89 Lb.
Boneless Sirloin Steak	\$2.99 Lb.
Blue Seal Easter Kielbasa	\$2.39 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	\$2.69 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$2.99 Lb.
Flavorite Boneless Half Hams	\$1.99 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast Whole	\$1.39 Lb.
Split	\$1.59 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round 5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck 5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Zonin Italian Sausage (Hot Or Sweet)	\$1.99 Lb.

SEAFOOD

Scrod Fillet	\$2.99 Lb.
Frozen Lobster Meat (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$9.99
Frozen Crab Meat (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$4.99

Tuesday & Wednesday SPECIALS

**Fresh
Ground Chuck
\$8.99**

7 Lbs.

DELI

Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.29 Lb.
Krakus Imported Ham	\$3.99 Lb.
Hormel Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Mother Goose Liverwurst	\$2.39 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	\$4.99 Lb.
Store Made Rare Roast Beef	\$4.99 Lb.
Store Made Cooked Corned Beef	\$3.99 Lb.
Cooper Sharp Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.
Fresh Seafood Salad	\$3.99 Lb.

PRODUCE

Fresh Asparagus	\$1.69 Lb.
Mini-Carrots (1 Lb. Bag)	99¢
Maine Potatoes (10 Lb. Bag)	\$1.39

**We Will Be
Closed All
Day On
Easter Sunday**

**Log Cabin Scented
Votive Candles
3 For \$1.99**
* * *

**Coca-Cola, Sprite,
And Surge
(12 Oz. Cans - 6 Pack)
\$1.79
Plus Deposit**

Fresh Broccoli (Bunch)	\$1.19
Bananas	39¢ Lb.
California Navel Oranges (Jumbo Size)	49¢ Each
Red And Green Seedless Grapes	\$1.39 Lb.
Red Delicious Apples (Jumbo Size)	89¢ Lb.
Granny Smith Apples (Jumbo Size)	89¢ Lb.

FROZEN & DAIRY

Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
Sweet Life 2% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
Hood Half & Half Cream (Pints)	69¢
Hood Sour Cream (Pints)	\$1.19
Friendly Ice Cream (All Varieties - 1/2 Gallon)	2 For \$5.00

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Selection Of Easter
Plants, Lilies, Tulips,
Mums, & Hyacinths**



Spotlight On Business

Legal Memo

by
Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Products Liability: Defective Hockey Helmet

The 18 year-old plaintiff was rendered quadriplegic when he struck the boards of a hockey rink with the top of his hockey helmet during an organized high school game.

The plaintiff sued the foreign manufacturer and the American distributor of the helmet alleging that the helmet was a defective energy management system, incapable of dissipating or absorbing the energy from foreseeable blows to the helmeted head.

The plaintiff contended that he would not have played the particular sport had he been aware of the risk of his injury, which was supported by his mother having prevented him from playing football due to her belief that football is more dangerous than hockey.

In this case, the plaintiff focused on the design of the helmet, the rash of such spinal injuries in hockey since helmets were mandated, and the defendants' duty not to merely warn of dangers, but to educate players about defensive strategies for avoiding such potentially devastating blows.

The plaintiff's biomechanical engineer opined that at the time of manufacture, alternate materials existed to make a more energy absorbent liner and that the ridges in the outer shell of the helmet cause the helmeted head and neck to rotate during contact and impact with the boards in a configuration that enhances the potential for injury.

The plaintiff was prepared to present evidence that the manufacturer and distributor should have disseminated warnings and instructions to coaches, trainers, players, and parents by way of durable printing directly on the helmets, printed literature, and instructional videos.

The plaintiff's psychologist opined that the stick-on warnings purportedly on the helmet at the time of sale (the plaintiff did not receive the helmet new) failed to meet accepted criteria for effective warnings and were better characterized as disclaimers than warnings.

The plaintiff was also prepared to present evidence that such warnings and instructions are particularly necessary in this context because high school athletes, who may already hold a faulty belief that they are immune from injury, can be expected to draw an enhanced feeling of invincibility from protective hockey equipment.

The case was settled for \$1.35 million.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Pam Savioli

Landry, Lyons &
Whyte Co./Better
Homes & Gardens



Home Warranty Plans

If you're in the final stages of buying a home, two things can give you peace of mind: having the home inspected and purchasing a home warranty plan.

A professional home inspection prior to closing can lessen the chance for surprises. You'll find out if the major systems are in working order and may also pick up some repair tips from inspectors.

A home warranty plan protects buyers against the failure of major home systems during the warranty period. Covered items may include heating and cooling units, plumbing and electrical systems and appliances - which will be repaired or replaced for a certain period of time after the purchase. Home warranty plans may be available for either new or existing housing.

For more information about home warranty plans, call Pam Savioli, (413) 748-7565.

best local news...

PIONEER Group's Web Site Offers Housing Information

Need a glossary of real estate firms? Want to shop for houses from the comfort of home? Looking for mortgage information? You can find all of this, and much more, on **The PIONEER Group's** site on the World Wide Web.

Company Principals, Raymond Rose and Donald Thompson, claims that it is one of the easiest web sites to tour in the real estate industry. Last October, Gary Lucia was promoted as its company's Internet Administrator.

"As Exclusive Buyer's Agents, we firmly believe that it is critical to service our clients with the highest levels of professionalism and care. Our web site allows our current clients, and any new clients, to shop for houses at their convenience. Also, we have complete information regarding school systems and town demographics available," Rose stated.

"Not only are we extremely pleased with the way that Gary designed our site, we are very proud of the fact that we just won our fourth national award for our web site's content and design," Thompson added.

Home buyers will also find complete information regarding the benefits of using an Exclusive Buyer's Agent to purchase their home, mortgage pre-approval guidelines, mortgage workshop updates, and much more.

The web address is www.pioneer-group.com.

The PIONEER Group is the largest real estate firm throughout Western Massachusetts that represents home buyers exclusively. As Buyer's Agents, they morally, legally, and ethically represent home buyers only, and, as opposed to most other real estate firms that represent both buyers and sellers, by representing buyers only, today's home buyer can be assured that there will never be a conflict of interest in their transaction and there are no out of pocket fees for the home buyer when they use the services of **The PIONEER Group**.

For more information, please e-mail them by using their web site ... or simply call 731-6800.

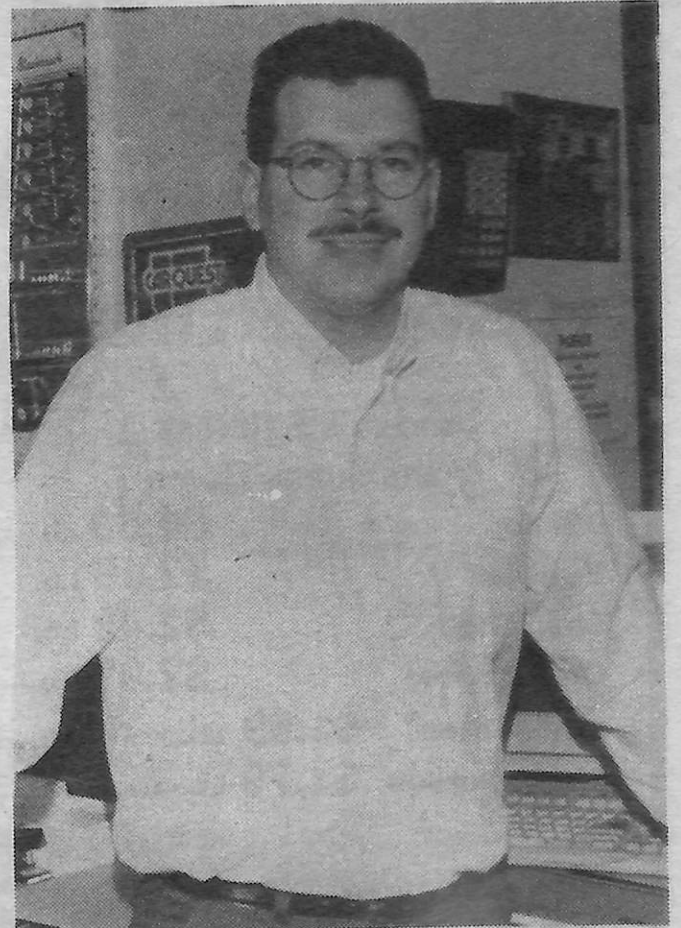
Traveling? Need Baby Equipment? Call New Company In FLA

Traveling to Florida? In need of baby equipment to rent? Baby Rent-All offers a wide variety of baby equipment for rent, including strollers, high chairs, swings, and much more!

Servicing the greater Tampa Bay area, St. Pete, and Clearwater beaches, free delivery and pick up is available.

For more information, call 1-888-8BABY98 or (813) 831-8576.

Check our classified ads...



JOHN GENTILE

John Gentile Joins V & F Auto Service As Service Writer

John Gentile has joined the staff of **V & F Auto Service** at 443 Springfield Street, Agawam, as the company's service writer and customer service representative.

Gentile, a 1985 Agawam High School graduate, most recently worked as service manager and lead diagnostic technician at Firestone in Springfield for the past five years.

At **V & F**, Gentile will be responsible for discussing estimates with customers, answering questions about the work being done to their vehicles by **V & F** mechanics, and resolving any problems that may arise.

He began his new position on Monday, March 30th.

Gentile grew up in Feeding Hills and attended Agawam Public Schools. He is a graduate of the Porter Chester Institute in Enfield and has also worked in the construction industry as a laborer and as a heavy machine operator.

He is married to the former Nancy Albano of Feeding Hills, an AHS graduate who owns and operates The Clip Shop on Springfield Street, only a short walk from **V & F Auto**. The couple currently resides in Southwick.

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KARDIO KICKBOX is high energy, explosive, exciting & motivating; it's the non-contact full-body workout with the kicks of martial arts & the punches from boxing.

KARDIO KICKBOX will give you the results you've always wanted, while also learning basic self defense skills. From shoulders to calves you will become lean & strong. You'll tighten, tone & firm your body while burning more fat than any other workout, increasing your self-confidence & reducing your stress level.

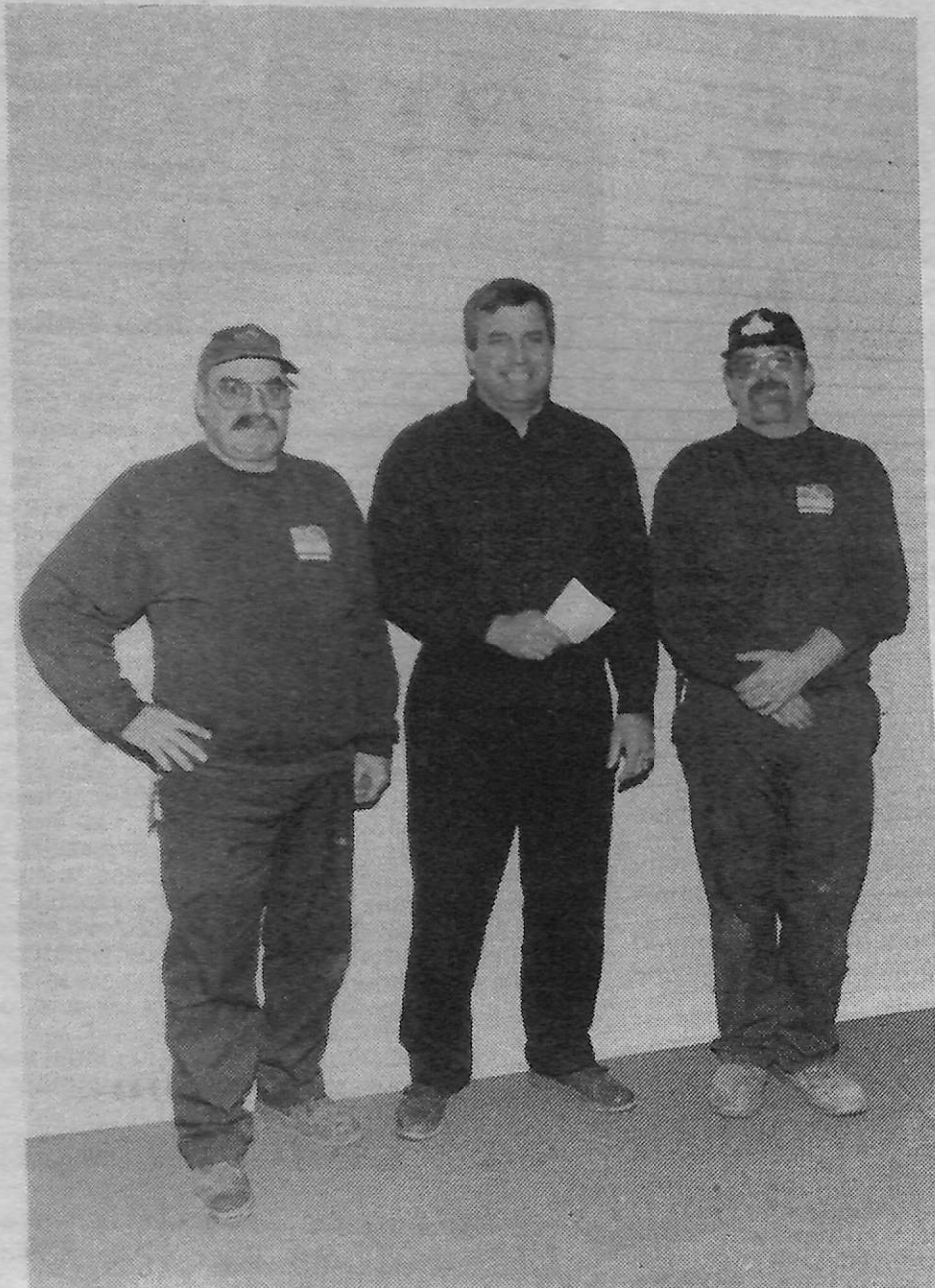
KARDIO KICKBOX is for everyone - from those who want to get in shape to those looking for the ultimate workout.

FREE INTRODUCTORY CLASS TO ALL
WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY
- LIMITED TIME ONLY -



More Fun...Incredible Results!

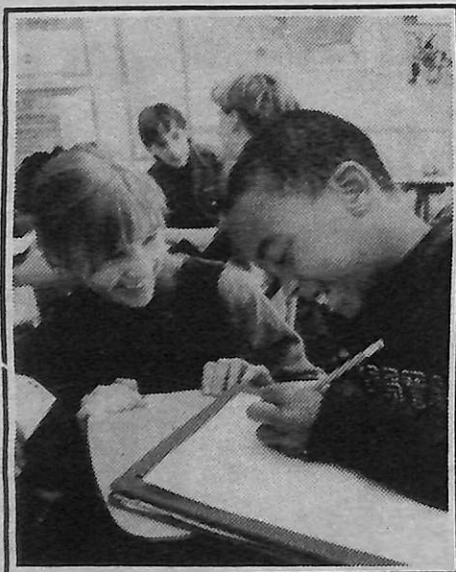
Call **786-4158** today
for schedule and location nearest you

*Spotlight On Business - continued...***Riverside Maintenance Awards**

MICHAEL PLOURDE (left) and ROB FARRIS (right) each received Maintenance Awards for outstanding work done during the winter months (especially February). Presenting the awards was Rick Neis, director of Maintenance. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

The MacDuffie School*Consider this for your child!*

- Coed, Grades 6-12
- Small class size
- Supportive environment
- Challenging, college prep curriculum
- Individualism applauded
- Dedicated faculty
- Competitive athletics
- Extracurricular activities
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**OPEN HOUSE**

Sunday, April 5

3:00 - 5:00 pm

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PLEASE REMEMBER our
deadline is every Tuesday at
noon.

There's GREAT INTEREST in Westbank's New IRA Certificates

3 Year - 5 Year - \$1,000 Min.**6.17%**

Annual Percentage Yield*

6.00%

Interest Rate

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* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) assumes interest remains on deposit for one year at stated rate of interest. Minimum balance to open and earn APY is stated in this ad. Interest compounded and credited to the account monthly. APY is accurate as of 1/12/98. This offer may be withdrawn at any time. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Deposits are FD.I.C. insured to \$100,000. Fees could reduce earnings on your account.

MEMBER F.D.I.C.



For Your Health



**Chiropractic
Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic
Physician**
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Shin Splints

Now with the warmer weather approaching, people are getting out and exercising more. Along with this often comes increased aches or pains.

A 17 year-old male came in the other day complaining of pain in the front of the leg. Pain in the front of the leg may be due to muscle strains or stress or stress-induced fractures.

"Shin splints" is a phrase used to define an inflammatory process of the muscles, tendons, or covering the bone. The pain is over the front of the leg which may spread to lower areas or to the outside of the leg. Pain may be increased when the foot is pointed upward or downward.

The cause of shin splints is due to an imbalance of the leg muscles. The front of the legs are weak while the back of the legs (calves) are stronger. This causes the front muscles to work much harder, leading to fatigue.

Those at risk for this condition include runners, walkers, joggers, and those who walk on irregular surfaces. Other risk factors are foot design, leg length inequalities, and bony variations of the leg and foot.

To prevent shin splints:

- good warm-up and stretching techniques
- keep shins warm during activity
- run/walk/jog on smooth, even surfaces that absorb shock
- wear well-fitting shoes with good arch support

Treatment of anterior shin splints consists of electrotherapies, ice massage, cross-friction massage, possible orthotics, taping of the leg, chiropractic treatment. Also, rest, stretch, and strengthening exercises are important. Improvement should be seen within one to two weeks, with complete healing in two weeks to two months, depending on the extent of injury.

If you are suffering with leg pain, contact our office today. Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

CPR Classes To Be Offered By Boy Scout Troop 207

Boy Scout Troop 207, sponsored by the West Springfield American Legion Post 207, will be offering American Heart Association CPR classes on Saturday, April 18th.

From 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., there will be a class for full CPR certification, and from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., a recertification class will be held (for AHA only; must include copy of current card).

The cost is \$40 per class, and make checks payable to "Boy Scout Troop 207." Please mail your check with your name, address, and home phone number to the West Springfield American Legion Post 207, 83 Park Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Grief Support Groups To Meet On April 8th

Three grief support groups are offered to those who have suffered a death in their family. Targeted to help different situations in grief, each is specialized in its focus to better help those who experienced a loss.

All three grief support groups will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, April 8th at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street in Agawam.

"Widowed Support" is for those whose partner has died. Because feelings and issues change as time passes, two groups exist to help meet the specific needs of those left behind. For men and women who have been widowed more than 18 months, the group will meet from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. People whose spouse passed away within the last 18 months will gather between 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

"Family & Friends" is for everyone suffering the loss of a parent, sibling, relative, friend, or spouse. It's an excellent opportunity for family members to come together to deal with their grief. This group gathers in the evening between 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8th.

"Absolutely no registration, costs, or long-term commitment are required to attend these gatherings," said Lila Forastiere, facilitator and grief specialist with Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam.

"These support groups are offered as a community service," she continued. "We encourage everyone who has suffered a loss to attend."

If you have questions about these grief support groups, please call Lila Forastiere at 786-2600 for further information.

Herbal Healing Workshop Scheduled At Mercy Hospital

Learn about the healing power of herbs at a six-week workshop sponsored by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital. Sessions will meet Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:30 p.m., from April 16th through May 21st, at the Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew St.

In this hands-on workshop, master herbalist Kathleen Duffy, L.P.N., will discuss the history of medicinal herbs; offer identification, preparation, and storage techniques; and provide an overview of herbs for both daily and first aid use. At each session, participants can sample herbal teas and practice identification using live plant specimens.

Duffy, a medical herbalist for more than 20 years, is owner of The Herbarium, a retail herb and health store in Chicopee, and founder of the consulting firm Natural Health Care Services. She is the host of "Herbs for Health and Healing," a weekly two-hour radio program on WNNZ-AM, and has lectured extensively on alternative health topics.

Cost for the workshop is \$150 and advance registration is required. For more information, call the Women's Pavilion, (413) 748-9080.

best local news...

Service Is Our Business!

Service Department

Open Monday to Thursday
7:00 A.M. - Midnight
7:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. On Friday

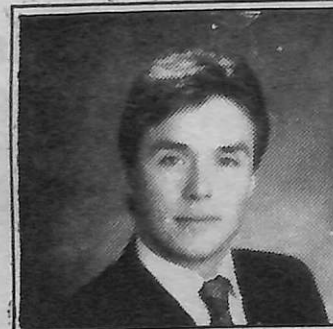
All Ford Cars, Vans, Trucks And Lincoln Mercury Products

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SARAT FORD

245 Springfield Street
Agawam

**MOONLIGHT
MADNESS**



Your Back And Your Health

by **Dr. Joseph
S. Schaffer
Schaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam**

Misalignment Of The Spinal Column

Question: My 10 year-old son is very active in baseball. Recently he collided with another player, which sent him to the ground landing on his back and neck.

X-rays were taken at a local facility but showed nothing. He continues to complain of neck pain and headaches. Aspirin only gives temporary relief. I was considering chiropractic. Is he too young to be seen by a chiropractor?

Answer: No. A child's growing spine is very susceptible to the bumps and falls he/she experiences during sports. It is in the active and developmental years of childhood that serious structural problems of the spine have their beginnings.

We see subluxations, fixations, spinal curvatures, and other structural distortions beginning from the falls and accidents that most all children experience. Before the skeletal/spinal system accommodates itself to these maladies, they can be easily and effectively corrected.

The developmental years are filled with sports and other forms of physical activity which often produces misalignment of the spinal column. The result is an impaired nerve system and poor health.

The doctor of chiropractic corrects the underlying cause and the symptoms vanish without the need of medications.

The Schaffer Chiropractic Office at 192 Shoemaker Lane (789-1369) may be contacted for examination or questions.

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Doreen A. Prouty Of Agawam
Registered Electrologist
Free Consultation

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new in town?

...and nobody gives a hoot?

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We're your local welcoming service, and we'd like to help you become acquainted with your new town. We have set aside a useful packet of community information and valuable gifts from local businesses, all free to you.

To arrange for a visit from our Community Representative, give us a call. Welcome to town!



Neighbor to Neighbor
of America, Inc.®
413-786-0244

For Your Health - continued...

Support Groups, Many Courses & Programs At Noble Hospital

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield.

Free of charge. All are welcome.

Stroke Support Group: Wednesdays, April 15th and April 29th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their support persons.

Topics: "Prevention of future strokes" (April 15th) and "Stroke in different areas of the brain; right vs. left" (April 29th).

Crohn's and Colitis: Tuesday, April 21st, 7:00 p.m. In Conference Room A.

Free of charge and open to all suffering from Crohn's or Colitis and their support persons. Heidi Dominguez Kolek, M.D., will entertain questions and answers for the IBD patient.

Diabetes Support Group: Tuesday, April 28th, 1:00 p.m. In Conference Room A.

Free of charge and open to all suffering from diabetes and their support persons. Linda Lissack, Paralegal Advocate at Western Mass. Legal Services, will speak about changes in Medicare at this meeting.

COURSES/PROGRAMS:

CPR Course: Two-part course — Wednesdays, April 15th and 22nd, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Education Department/Ground Floor of Noble Hospital.

This course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant certification. Cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call the Noble Hospital Education Department at (413) 568-2811, ext. 5914.

14th Annual Run For A Noble Cause (5-K Road Race and Kid's Race): Saturday, April 25th, 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by Noble Hospital.

Registration is limited to 350. The registration fee is \$8 in advance, and \$10 on the day of the race. The Kid's Race is free.

Awards will be given for all divisions. Call Noble Hospital's Health Beat, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or more information.

Children's Olympics: Saturday, May 2nd, 8:30 a.m. At Billy Bullens Field. Sponsored by Noble Hospital and the YMCA of Greater Springfield.

Registration is limited to 250. The registration fee is \$6 for one child, \$8 for two children, \$10 for three children, and \$12 for four or more children in the same family.

Children five through 12 years of age will compete in "Olympic Events," which include hurdles, softball throw, 50-yard dash, sack race, and standing broad jump. Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers (boys and girls) in each age division.

Pre-registration is required prior to April 22nd. Call Noble Hospital's Health Beat, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or more information.

Health Awareness Seminar Focuses On Treating PMS

Pre-menstrual Syndrome (PMS) has long been fodder for comedians' jokes, but for the women who suffer from the bloating, irritability, anxiety, headaches, and other symptoms which accompany the condition, it's no laughing matter.

Learn about what causes PMS and how to treat it at an April 8th Health Awareness Seminar sponsored by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital. "PMS: It's Not All in Your Head" will take place from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center, 299 Carew St.

Speaker Elizabeth Bertuch, R.N., M.S., C.S., will explain what PMS is and why it occurs, and provide an overview of treatment strategies, including nutrition, vitamins, exercise, and medications. A question-and-answer session will follow.

Bertuch is a clinical nurse specialist at Brightside for Families and children, West Springfield, where she is responsible for psychiatric evaluations, therapy, and education. She holds masters' degrees in nursing and psychiatric mental health nursing from Pace University, and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Creighton University.

Reservations must be made before April 1st; the fee is \$10. For more information and to register, call the Women's Pavilion, (413) 748-9080.

The program is one in a series of seminars hosted by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital. The Women's Pavilion encourages women to become active participants in their own health care through education, referrals, counseling, and support.



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

New, Easy Way To Control Your Appetite

You walk in the door after a busy day. Your stomach growls. You're starving, so you head for the kitchen and grab the easiest thing available ... chips, crackers, and cheese.

Sound familiar? Many people come home starving and out of control. In an effort to lose weight, many Americans skimp on breakfast and lunch. That is easy to do since we are usually busy all day and have little time to think about food. However, these same Americans end up eating all night.

Researchers at UCLA studied appetite regulation. They found that protein foods shut off our appetite and carbohydrate foods turn on appetite. Since the push to cut fat has taken off, many Americans have deleted protein foods such as meat and milk products from their diet. Americans are now filling up on lowfat carbohydrate foods like pasta and bagels. For many, these carbohydrate foods stimulate appetite and we end up eating two or three cups of pasta or a full, four-ounce, giant, white flour bagel! Surveys show Americans have cut their fat significantly. However, we are fatter than ever because we eat too much white flour and sugar foods.

To help control your appetite, follow these tips:

- Reduce the amount of starch in your meals and balance your starch portion with equal amounts of protein. Protein foods include lean beef and pork, poultry, fish, and legumes. Lowfat milk products such as skim milk, 2 percent milk cheeses, cottage cheese, and yogurt will also provide protein. So, for example, switch that mammoth morning bagel to a half bagel with some lowfat cottage cheese and fruit. The calories may be about the same, but the food will be more filling and satisfying.

- Drink plenty of fluids throughout the day. Our brain often confuses thirst for hunger.

JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Please call Jack at 789-0053. If Jack is out, please leave a message for him.



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Arts

Ag. Cultural Council Announces Awarding Of 23 Grants

The Agawam Cultural Council announces the award of 23 grants totaling \$17,363 for cultural programs in Agawam. The grants were awarded from a pool of funds distributed to Agawam by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that supports public programs and educational activities in the arts, sciences, and humanities.

Grants were awarded to schools, organizations, and individuals for activities which include field trips for schoolchildren, concerts, exhibitions, and programs for the townspeople of Agawam. In 1998, statewide, almost 7,000 grants will be distributed.

The Agawam Cultural Council is part of a network of 336 local councils that serve every city and town in the state. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which then allocates funds to each local council. The decisions about which activities to support are made at the community level by a board of municipally appointed volunteers.

Members of the Agawam Cultural Council are Sylvia Deliso, chair; Barbara Cohen, Thelma Coughlin, Darcy Davis, Elisabeth DePergola, Edward Filkoski, Michael Grandfield, Donna Kennedy, Richie Mitnik, Florida Tangocci, and associate members Virginia Heyl and Sandra Saito.

This year's grants in Agawam are as follows: Agawam Historical Association, Agawam Public Library, Agawam Rotary Club, Springfield Symphony Orchestra, Edmond F. Byrne, Musicorda, Inc., Pioneer Valley Band Council, John Root, Edward M. Wirt, Agawam Middle School, James Clark School, Clifford M. Granger School, Benjamin J. Phelps School, and Robinson Park School.

Children Can Step Into 19th Century At Storowton Village

Children age seven through 12 can step into the 19th century and learn more about Early American Village life during Storowton Village Museum's winter vacation program, "A Day Away in the Past."

The program will be offered twice, April 21st or 22nd from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Storowton Village Museum is offering a 20 percent discount on admission, which is \$5 off the regular \$25 fee, for those who register and pay in full for the camp by Monday, April 13th.

Children spending a day away in the past will be dressed in period costumes provided by the Village and try their hand at crafts such as candle making, basketbaking, and quill pen calligraphy. They will also participate in Early American games as well as experience the uniqueness of a working blacksmith shop with hands-on instruction.

To register or find out more about this historic program, call the Storowton Village Museum office at (413) 787-0136.

"Aladdin" Huge Hit For STAGE Productions



PLAYERS FROM THE 23-MEMBER CAST of "Aladdin" pose for an aftershow photo (above) in their original designed costumes constructed by Sue Pearsons, Dot Wells, and Margie Secora of STAGE Productions. The show recently ran for four sold-out performances, and now makes way for the next children's theatre presentation at The Red Door Theatre — "Momotaro, The Peach Boy." For information, call (413) 789-2026.

STAGE Children's Theatre To Present "Momotaro, The Peach Boy" In April

STAGE Children's Theatre continues its tradition of offering young people a theatre experience with an international flavor in its upcoming April vacation drama camp, "Momotaro, The Peach Boy."

The camp runs April 20th-24th, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., and culminates in four public performances: April 24th and 25th at 7:30 p.m. and April 25th and 26th at 2:00 p.m.

Applications for this popular Japanese folktale are now being accepted from theatre enthusiasts eight to 15 years-old. Participants are involved in all aspects of the production and all play a role in this story of a young Japanese Prince who is hid-

den in a giant peach to protect him from his enemies. Raised by a childless, peasant couple, Momotaro comes of age and leaves them to seek his fortune in the world and to reclaim his rightful royal title.

Co-directors of The Red Door Theatre, Margie Secora and Lyle Pearsons, intend to produce the play in the style of Kabuki theatre and engage the students in the crafts, musical instruments, expressions, and traditions of ancient Japan.

If you would like more information on enrollment or would like to reserve tickets for "The Peach Boy," call (413) 789-2026.

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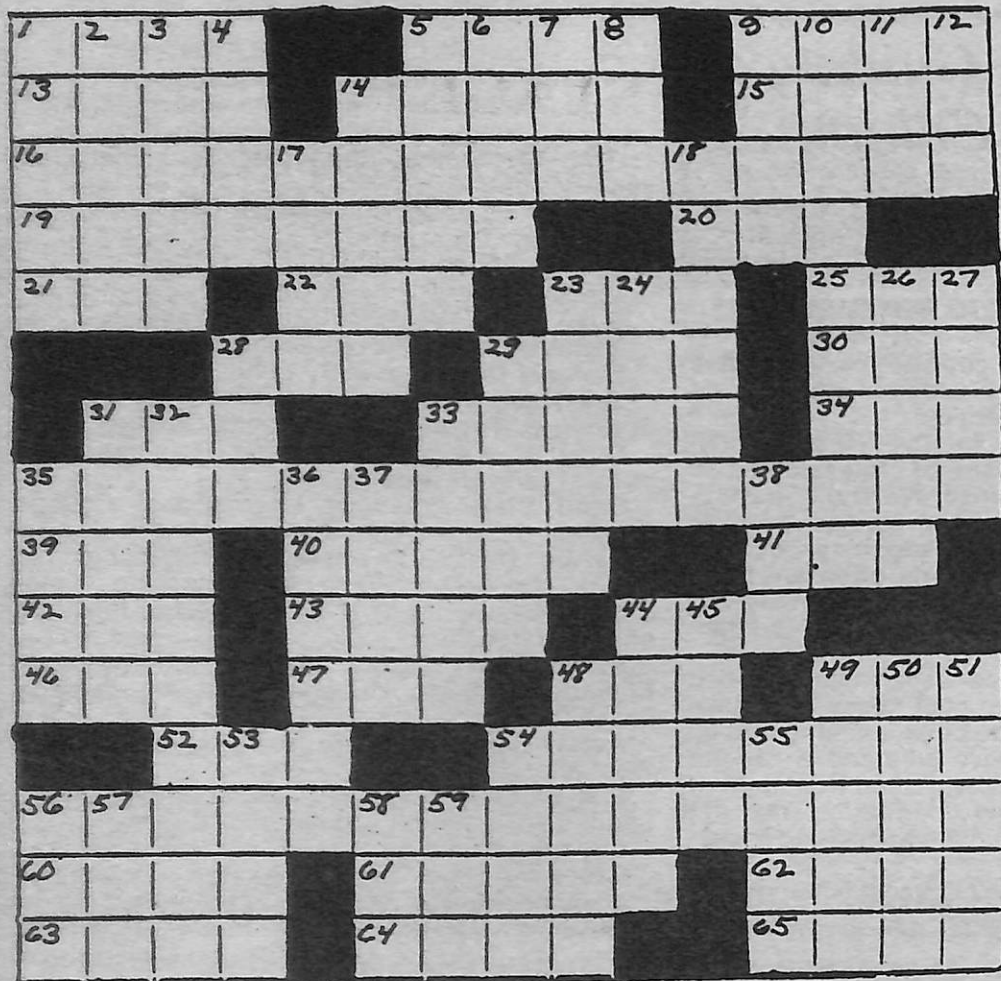
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MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



ACROSS

- 1 Gymnast Korbut
- 5 "That Tune"
- 9 Cowardly Lion portra-
yer
- 13 Garden tools
- 14 Poe's famous bird
- 15 "Step —"
- 16 Words of disbelief
- 19 Closed again
- 20 Pinky or Peggy
- 21 Compass setting
- 22 Actor Danson
- 23 Orioles' Ripken
- 25 D-Day landing craft
- 28 Sounds of content-
ment
- 29 Rane's wear
- 30 Summer on the
Somme
- 31 Arrange (abbr.)
- 33 Dumbbell
- 34 Negative prefix
- 35 Words to a liar
- 39 Feel poorly
- 40 Palmer the golfer
- 41 Northeast time zone
- 42 Greek letter
- 43 Competed
- 44 Wanted poster info
word
- 46 Japanese money
- 47 UFO pilots
- 48 "— Lanka"
- 49 Golfing norm
- 52 Card game for short
- 54 Immigrant's travel
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- 56 Words of disbelief

- 60 Sour in appearance
- 61 Romantic interlude
- 62 Play on words
- 63 Pot builder
- 64 Emily of etiquette
- 65 Admiral Graf —

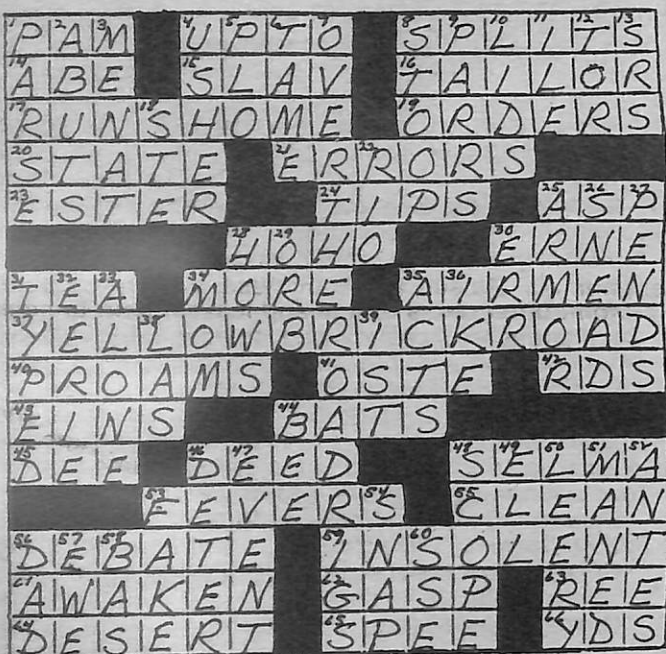
DOWN

- 1 Chicago airport
- 2 Sophia of film
- 3 Gaggles members
- 4 "Ye shall reap —
sow"
- 5 Unclothed
- 6 Eager
- 7 "Pre- —"
- 8 Complete
- 9 "The — Ranger"
- 10 Los Angeles natives
- 11 Not her
- 12 Map abbr.
- 14 Governs
- 17 Swear word
- 18 "Fighting —" (Ill-
nois footballers)
- 23 Frankie of music
- 24 "Pretty maids all in
—"
- 26 Author Rex
- 27 Nomad's pad
- 28 Prado showings
- 29 Unyielding
- 31 Spring up
- 32 Refusing (2 words)
- 33 Where Clementine's
father worked
- 35 Military funeral
song
- 36 Contraction
- 37 Legal paper

- 38 Teachers' org.
- 44 Staggering
- 45 Russian port
- 48 Walking stick
- 49 Honor an I.O.U.
- 50 "He's — goose"
- 51 Show thrift
- 53 Regarding
- 54 Stallone and Stone
- 55 Agents for short
- 56 Actress Lupino
- 57 Head Mafioso
- 58 Bad guy in "Back To
The Future"
- 59 Tokyo once

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Last Week's Solution...



Young At Heart Chorus To Perform At Agawam Library On April 3rd

The Young at Heart Chorus from Northampton will present a musical/comedy performance at the Agawam Public Library on Friday, April 3rd, at 7:30 p.m.

The Chorus is a very unique senior citizen group whose members range in age from 65 to 90. They have performed for many organizations, groups, and business organizations over the past 15 years.

Their voices, comedy, and costumes have

delighted countless audiences. The return performance in Agawam was overwhelmingly requested by our "First Friday" audiences.

The group was chosen to appear at Holland's Senior Songfest in Amsterdam last July. Twenty-five of the members went to display their many talents. One reviewer noted that "they're hip, they're hot, and they're happening" (*Boston Globe*).

The program is being sponsored by the Agawam Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Check our classified pages every week!

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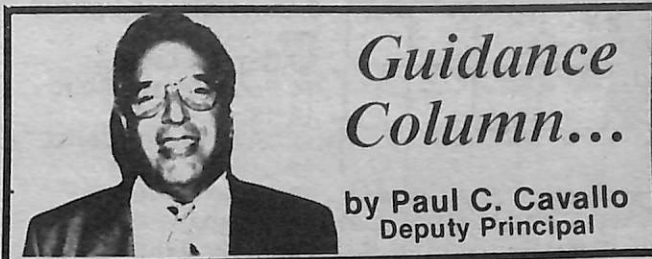
Congrats, Travis!



CLARK SCHOOL PRINCIPAL Sandra Howard presents first-grader Travis Carter with a \$100 prize from the Springfield Newspapers, which held a contest wherein schoolchildren had to write a classified ad describing the kind of pet they're looking for. Travis wrote, "Wanted: A purple t-rex to play with seven-year-old boy. Must like Monopoly. Write Box 9657." His ad was originally part of an activity in Mrs. Greenough's class at Clark.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

News Editor Kathy Cassanelli is another reason why you turn our pages...



Guidance Column...

by Paul C. Cavallo
Deputy Principal

APRIL 6th ... A DATE TO REMEMBER!!!

All parents of juniors, get out your calendars now and with pen in hand circle April 6th. Have we got an evening planned for you!!

From 7:00-9:00 p.m., in the High School cafeteria, we will have a panel of professionals on hand to share their expertise. We know that the transition from high school to college or other types of post high school happenings can be traumatic. Parents and students often are filled with questions about the planning that they will have to do during the senior year to make the transition a smooth one.

Therefore, the Guidance Department decided that we had to respond to your needs and make available what promises to be an exciting and informative evening. We have prepared a "Junior Handbook" which will be distributed that night. It contains all the necessary information that you will need to get you through the hectic and important time that lies ahead.

The following is a list of our speakers and their topics:

1. **Mr. Todd Audyatis**, Staff Assistant, Admission and Financial Aid, Westfield State College, Westfield, MA 01086-1630; 572-5375. "The New Admissions Requirements For The Public Colleges"
2. **Ms. Linda DeGrady**, Director of Financial Aid, Springfield College, Springfield, MA 01109-3797; (413) 748-3108. "Finding the Financial Aid That's Out There"
3. **Mr. John Dorazio**, Director of Admissions, Springfield Technical Community College, 1 Armory Square, Springfield, MA 01105; 781-STCC. "What Does A Public Two-Year School Have To Offer?" (technical aspects, liberal arts transfer compact)
4. **Ms. Carol Grady**, Career Center Coordinator and Business Teacher, Agawam High School, Agawam, MA 01001. "What Do I Want To Do When I Grow Up?" (career and college planning)
5. **Ms. Karen Guastelle**, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions, Sacred Heart University, 5151 Park Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06432; 203-371-7999. "A Private Four-Year College - The Admissions Process" (interview process, admissions, essay writing, private vs. public colleges)
6. **Ms. Carin Zinter**, High School Programs Director, The Princeton Review, P.O. Box 390, Florence, MA 01060; 584-6849. "The SAT - What Is It? How To Prepare For It, How To Interpret The Results"

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

College Acceptances: Congratulations!

Eric Melbourne: Springfield Technical Community College, Holyoke Community College

Tom Melbourne: Springfield Technical Community College

Shauna Hadden: University of Vermont, University of New Hampshire

Kin Ly: Bentley College

Lindsay Gage: Hartwick College

Ryan Stack: Westfield State College

Bryan O'Quinn: Providence College

Stefanie Domaingue: Stonehill College

Jay Hanscom: Holyoke Community College, Springfield Technical Community College

Daryl St. Laurent: Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Tufts University

Geoff Ciak: American International College, Stonehill College

Lonnie DeLuca: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Union College, University of Massachusetts, University of New Hampshire

Amy Mastroianni: Boston University, Bridgewater State College, Stonehill College, Lasell College

Ashley Corbin: Western New England College, Westfield State College

Erik Blackman: Holyoke Community College, Springfield Technical Community College

Courtney Locke: College of the Holy Cross

Rashawn Brookins: Northeastern University

Marcia Rackliffe: Holyoke Community College

Matthew Norris: Sacred Heart University, Mount Ida College, University of New Haven, Marist College

Sarah Bonini: Mount Holyoke College

Dan Hess: Johnson and Wales University, New Hampshire College

Darrick Roy: Holyoke Community College, Springfield Technical Community College

Jennifer Thibodeau: Syracuse University

Jeff Lyman: Boston University

Aimee Dubay: Quinnipiac College

Dianna Abdala: Union College

Scholarships: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Western Mass. Baseball Umpires Association:

Open to participants of Western Mass. high school baseball. The scholarship will be awarded on the basis of scholastic achievement, sportsmanship, citizenship, courage, leadership, and athletic achievement in high school baseball.

Deadline: May 15, 1998.

Open Houses: Juniors and their parents are invited to attend the following Open Houses. See your counselor for more information.

Daemen College Weekend Open House, April 3rd, 4th, 5th

University of Connecticut, Saturday, April 18th

Bryant College, April 17th

University of Maine, April 20th

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After Researching Class Size...

District Learning Team Sets Sights On Issues Related To Ed. Reform

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Their focus this year has been on researching the effect of class size on student learning. Next year, the District Learning Team (DLT) will turn its attention to issues related to the mandates of the Education Reform Act of 1993.

While DLT members are preparing a report of their research into class size for presentation at the April 14th School Committee meeting, school administrators have already begun to look into the effect state-mandated testing and state-mandated curriculum requirements will have on the school district's student promotion policy, and on the way classes are scheduled at the High School.

School Superintendent Frank Ameruso has begun a review of the district's policies for promoting students to the next grade level to make sure the children are at the appropriate grade level of proficiency to meet the new state standards when the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) begins testing students in grades four, eight, and 10.

Consistent Promotion Policy

Ameruso said he has appointed Director of Curriculum and Instruction Mary Czajkowski to chair a committee to work with the school principals on creating a consistent promotion policy throughout the school system.

"We have to decide as a school system what is an acceptable level of achievement for promotion," Ameruso said. "Is two years off grade level an acceptable answer? Not to me, it isn't."

After looking at the promotion policies submitted by each school principal, Ameruso said he has already decided the policies are inadequate and review is long overdue.

"This is not about placing blame. It is about making our policies what they should be," Ameruso said. "Some of our principals were not even in place when these policies were developed."

Expected to take at least a year, the review of promotion policies will include gathering research on whether students performing below grade level benefit by being retained rather than promoted to the next grade, as well as looking at samples of student records to track the progress of at-risk students in Agawam.

"We're going to be sampling the records of students who were at risk," Ms. Czajkowski said. "For example, if we have a ninth-grader reading at the fifth grade level, we want to know what happened."

This spring the MCAS testing will be given for the first time; the results will be used only to establish a baseline of information on student performance. But, by the year 2001, when students currently in seventh grade are tested as 10th graders, students must pass the test in order to graduate from high school, Ameruso said.

According to Ms. Czajkowski, the MCAS testing will make it easier for the schools to identify and zero in on areas where students may need extra help because individual test results will be reported for each student.

Ameruso agreed to provide an update on the School Department's review of promotion policies at each DLT meeting.

In addition to developing promotion policies to ensure student success on state mandated testing, school administrators will soon be faced with scheduling high school classes to meet state requirements (while still finding the time for gym class and electives like art, music, and band).

School Committeewoman Linda Galarneau said, "Change has to happen over the next two years because our schedule can't support what needs to be done to comply with Ed Reform."

Ms. Czajkowski agreed that the current seven period day at the High School would not offer enough class time to meet the requirements of the curriculum frameworks (while still allowing time for gym and electives).

"Art, music, band, physical ed, and health and family consumer science are all great subjects that need to be taught, but I always have to go back to the frameworks that we will be assessed in: math, social studies, science, English, and world languages," Ms. Czajkowski said.

DLT & Parents Working Together

Mrs. Galarneau said the DLT could play an important role by working together to identify what parents want while satisfying the needs of the school system and the teachers' union.

"We're going to be faced with meeting the requirements and we have to consider the cost factors of keeping everything we want," Mrs. Galarneau said. "We're going to have to make some hard-line choices because teachers staying a longer day will cost more money."

At its next meeting, the DLT will discuss the issues swirling around a controversial vote of the teachers' union turning down a proposal for reorganizing the Junior High School into a team teaching model.

After some discussion of the advisability of opening old wounds by bringing a dead issue to the table, DLT members concurred that the discussion of team teaching would be undertaken as a means of discovering how to overcome conflicts between the school administrators and the collective bargaining unit.

Junior High social studies teacher Gail Dion, who served as president of the teachers' union for 12 years, said the discussion should focus on "just the facts, ma'am," rather than on the feelings of the group members on the team teaching issue.

"Unless we know what the problems are, how can we work to remove those problems and move forward in the future?" Mrs. Dion asked.

Area Students Attain Dean's List Standing At Westfield State

Dr. William H. Lopes, senior vice president for academic affairs, has announced the Westfield State College students who have achieved the Dean's List for the fall 1997 semester.

Among these outstanding students are:

From Agawam:

Marni Ayers, Robert Anderson, Corrie Antaya, Robert Ayers, Justin Baker, Diane Barnes, Joe Beauchemin, Patricia Belisle, Jeffrey Campbell, Lynn Carra, Yolanda Ciarmatori, Jenna Dietschler, Jamie Gaudette, Linda M. Jordan, Kamaris Lessard, Jeffrey Morassi, Kevin O'Connor, Daniel Pryce.

From Feeding Hills:

Joseph Blanca, Nancy Bulmer, Marie Fortier, Herman Hochreich, Jeffrey Kratovil, Tammy Leary, Selena Machia, John Manzi, Mary Parrotta, Allison Radio, Alison Rock, Nicholas Rondinelli, Michelle Sears, Ronald Wieners, Jr.

To qualify, a student must maintain a grade point average of 3.3 based on a 4.0 system, have no grade below C, and no incomplete grades.

Westfield State College, founded in 1839, has a primarily residential campus and offers 24 major programs of study.

Christopher Benjamin Makes Dean's List At Springfield College

Christopher Benjamin of Feeding Hills was named to the Dean's List for the second time at Springfield College. His GPA was a 3.40 for the fall semester.

Students are eligible for the Dean's List by attaining a 3.33 for the semester. He is in his senior year at Springfield College.

Christopher is a Psychology major with a strong concentration in Health Fitness. He is the son of Roy and Virginia Benjamin of 49 Oriole Drive, Feeding Hills.

Local Students Attain Winter Term Honors At Suffield Academy

The following area students have been named to Suffield Academy's winter term honor roll:

HIGH HONORS:

Grade 10 — Elizabeth Cowan of Agawam.

Grade 11 — Jeffrey Beaudette and Sara Cowan, both of Agawam.

HONORS:

Grade 12 — Michael Albro of Feeding Hills.

Financial Aid Info & Resources Available At Rep. Keenan's Office

Financial aid information for college-bound students and their families is available at State Rep. Dan Keenan's district office. Resources and information that may be obtained include a Financial Aid Packet from the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA), the 1997-1998 Admissions and Financial Aid at Independent Colleges in Massachusetts Handbook, and the New England Regional Student Program guide.

Please contact Rep. Keenan's district office, 786-4545, to obtain copies of the financial aid resources. Anyone with questions regarding the financial aid process may call MEFA at (617) 261-9760.

PLEASE REMEMBER that JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. IF JACK IS OUT, please leave a message and he will return your call promptly. Call Jack at 789-0053. Thanks.

Daisy Troop No. 577 Holds Investiture



DAISY TROOP NO. 577 from Phelps Elementary School recently held its investiture festivities at Agawam Congregational Church. In addition to the troop members, family and friends enjoyed the activities, which included a stage performance and making-your-own sundaes. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Please remember our deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We open at 6:30 a.m.



EAGLE SCOUT JUSTIN KRATOVIL (center) with his parents, Mark and Rosemary Kratovil, and his sister and brother, Jennifer and Jeffrey. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Justin Kratovil Of Boy Scout Troop 78 Receives Eagle Badge

On Saturday, March 21st, an Eagle Banquet was held for Justin Kratovil of Boy Scout Troop 78 at Alexander's Restaurant in Feeding Hills. Mayor Christopher Johnson, State Representative Dan Keenan, and County Commissioner Abe Kasparian attended the ceremony and presented the new Eagle Scout with special citations.

Earning the Eagle Badge requires a great deal of devotion and perseverance. While advancing through the ranks, a scout must hold various leadership positions within his troop, help with various projects, and learn the scout skills in the Boy Scout Manual.

To become an Eagle, a scout must earn 21 merit badges in addition to planning and leading his troop with a community-oriented service project. Justin's led Troop 78 to a successful cleanup of the old county prison farm on School Street in Agawam.

Justin hopes to see the land, which is presently owned by Hampden County, donated to Agawam for recreation by its citizens. Future plans include a bike trail that will extend along River Road. While carrying out his project, Justin worked with County Commissioner Kasparian.

Justin is a junior at Agawam High School and President of the Model Congress. He currently has a bill passed by the judicial committee of the House of Representatives and ready for review by the Massachusetts Senate before becoming a law.

Justin plans to continue on with the Boy Scouts as well as the Agawam High Model Congress. Upon graduation, he plans to attend college.

Bay Path To Hold Free Info. Session For Women On April 7th

The Office of Continuing Education at Bay Path College will hold a free information session for women interested in furthering their education on Tuesday, April 7th at 5:30 p.m. in the Occupational Therapy Lab in Elliot House, on the Longmeadow campus.

Although this session will focus on Bay Path's Occupational Therapy and Occupational Therapy Assistant programs, and show attendees the well-equipped laboratory site and a paraffin hand bath treatment, it will also offer prospective first-time students information about all of Bay Path's academic programs, including bachelor's degrees, associate degrees and certificates; support services; and financial aid guidelines. Bay Path offers new continuing education students half tuition for their first two courses, and the college's Board of Trustees has also authorized an additional \$100,000 in scholarships for new qualified continuing education students.

Women interested in attending the April 7th session should contact Carol Dunlop, director of continuing education, at the college at (413) 567-0621, ext. 332, or toll free at 1-800-782-7284.

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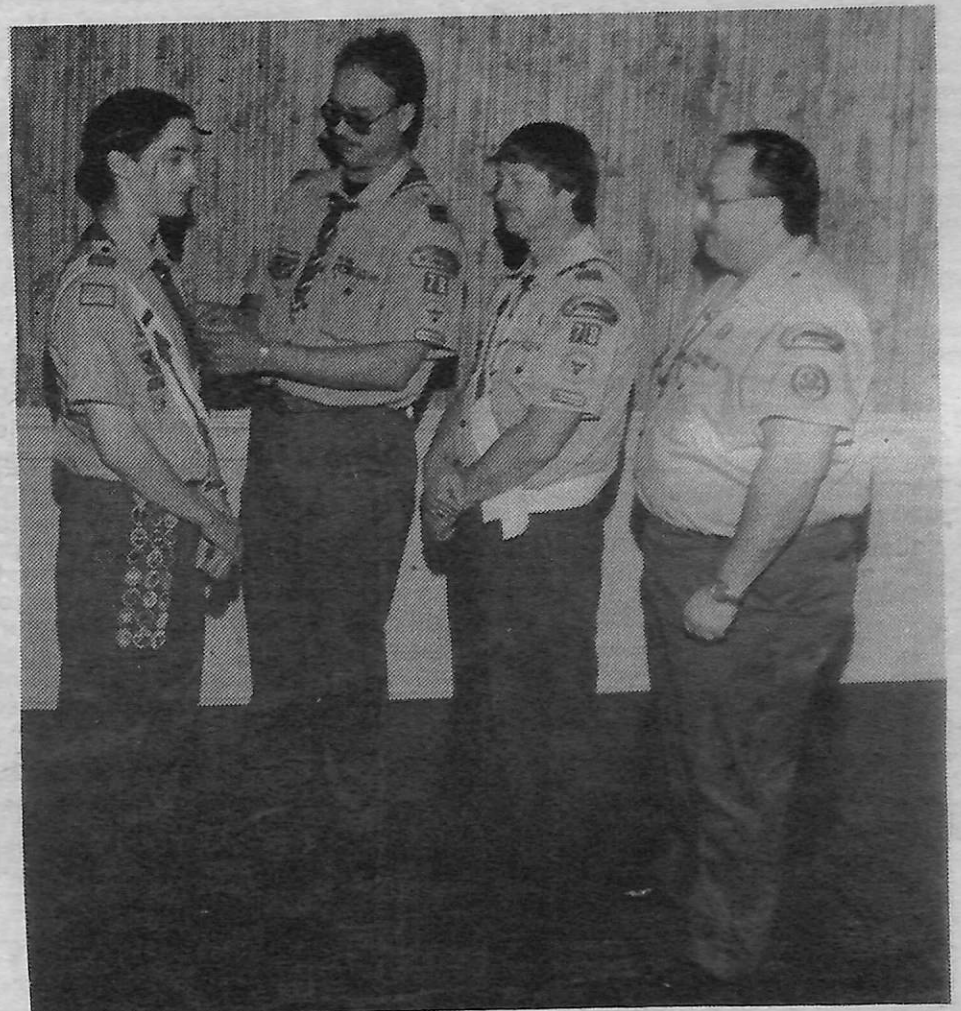
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EAGLE SCOUT JUSTIN KRATOVIL receives special citations from Hampden County Commissioner Abe Kasparian, State Rep. Daniel Keenan, and Mayor Christopher Johnson. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



JUSTIN KRATOVIL receives his Eagle Badge from Scoutmasters Ray LaBorde, Cliff Hogan, and Ken Connor. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Agawam High's Calendar Of Events For Month Of April

APRIL IS "MATH MONTH"!

April 1st-9th: "Easter Candy Sale" (sponsored by the Future Teachers' Club).

April 1st-17th: "Food Drive" for Open Pantry (sponsored by the Math Club).

April 3rd: CPR training for Applied Health Sciences class; Blood Drive (sponsored by the Future Teachers' Club), 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

April 6th-9th: "La Semana Santa" (Spanish classes).

April 6th-10th: "Senior Tee Shirt Sale" (sponsored by the National Honor Society).

April 6th: Performance by Westfield State College Brass Quintet (sixth period); Junior Night (sponsored by the Guidance Department), 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria; Band Parents' meeting.

April 7th: Band Scholarship Concert, 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

April 8th: Math Club meeting.

April 13th-17th: Health Awareness Week — "Staying Safe - Being Healthy"; Prom prizes giveaway (sponsored by Renaissance); Shakespeare Week (sponsored by the English Department).

April 13th: Health Advisory Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Middle School; "Fatal Vision" (presented by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program).

April 14th: Early release day; Annual Chorus Time Concert (grades 5-12), 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium.

April 15th: "Alcohol Awareness Day" activities; "Mock Accident" and "Mock Wake" (periods 6 and 7); Latin I/II classes to UMass for "Classics Day"; "Culinary Arts Festival," 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

April 16th: "Health Fair" in the cafeteria and gymnasiums; "Teenage Grieving Process" (presented by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program); AHS School Improvement Council meeting, 7:00 p.m.

April 17th: "BFI Recycling" (classroom presentations); "Earth Day Fair" (sponsored by SAVE — periods 2 and 3); Shakespeare assembly (period 7); Dr. Dan Smola from STCC (presentation to Applied Health Sciences class).

April 18th: "Can and Bottle Drive" (sponsored by the Band).

April 24th: "AHS Junior-Senior Prom" at Chez Josef.

April 27th: AHS Class Elections.

April 27th-30th: "Youth Risk Behavior Survey" (conducted in grades 7-12).

April 28th: AHS Class Elections; "Smokeless Tobacco" (presentation by Bob Bigelow, Tobacco Invention Specialist from Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association; sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Program).

April 29th: "Vaudeville '98" (sponsored by the Music Department); Math Club meeting.

April 30th: "Sexuality in the 90's" (presented by the Agawam Counseling Center); Band trip to Atlanta, Georgia.



PICTURED ABOVE ARE THE Clark Elementary School students who performed "It's A Jungle Out There!", a musical play that was presented as part of "Music In Our Schools Month." The production was directed by Mrs. Sylvia Starkie. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Clark School Stages Musical During "Music In Our Schools Month"

"It's A Jungle Out There!", a musical play for young voices by Mary Donnelly and George L.O. Strid, orchestrated by Alan Billingsley, was presented at James Clark School on March 25th as part of "Music in Our Schools Month."

Directed by Mrs. Sylvia Starkie, cast members included **Matthew Niles**, King Leo; **Erica DeBarge**, Stripes; **Chelsea Rice**, Spots; **Brandon Patoins**, Cheetah No. 1; **Matthew Werther**, Cheetah No. 2; **Tiffani Sherbo**, Cheetah No. 3; **Chelsea LaBelle**, Monkey No. 1; **Ashley Packard**, Monkey No. 2.

Amanda Shepard, Monkey No. 3; **William Holden**, Hyena No. 1; **Rebecca Largay**, Hyena No. 2; **Steven Padla**, Hyena No. 3; **Nathan Rheault**, Elephant No. 1; **Kristopher Kelly**, Elephant No. 2;

Richard Walker, Elephant No. 3.

Rappers were played by **Allison Dassatti**, **Kristie Roberts**, and **Ashley Toyfair**. Understudy was **Allison Ventulett**. Scenery was provided by Jrs. Joan Fontaine and Mrs. Gail Satrowski.

Costumes were provided by parents with make-up handled by Mrs. Donna Carter.

Musical selections were as follows:

Intro: *Monkey See* (Kindergarten); *It's A Jungle Out There!* (Grade 4); *The King Of The Jungle* (Grade 1); *Party Animals* (Grade 4); *Goin' Bananas* (Grade 4); *Everything Is Funny To Me* (Grade 3); *Good Friends* (Grade 2); and a reprise of *It's A Jungle Out There!* (Grade 2).

Activities Scheduled During "Health Awareness Week"

The Agawam Public School System will be conducting the following activities during "Health Awareness Week," April 13th-17th. The theme of the week is "Staying Safe - Being Healthy."

April 13th: "Fatal Vision" by John Mineo at the High School. This presentation simulates the dangers of drunk driving.

April 14th: Classroom work at all levels.

April 15th: Speakers on various drug and alcohol issues. 8:00-11:00 a.m.; Mock accident at

the High School, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon; Mock wake at the High School, 12:30-1:30 p.m.; Health Advisory Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m. (Middle School)

April 16th: Teenage Grieving Process Presentation at the High School, 9:00-10:45 a.m.; Health Fair at the High School, 6:30-8:30 p.m. **FREE OF CHARGE AND OPEN TO ALL.**

April 17th: BFI Recycling presentations

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Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 6th: Pepperoni-topped pizza, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and ranch dressing, chilled pineapple tidbits, milk.

Tuesday, April 7th: Hamburg in roll, mustard, relish, catsup, steamed rice, seasoned mixed vegetables, apple crisp, milk.

Wednesday, April 8th: Taco boat with cheese topping, seasoned niblet corn, cinnamon applesauce, chocolate brownie, milk.

Thursday, April 9th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets, honey and mayonnaise, seasoned diced carrots, bread and butter, steamed parsley rice, chilled mixed fruit cup or ice cream cup, milk.

Friday, April 10th: Good Friday (no school).

Ziegert Scholarship Concert To Feature Alumni Saxophonist

The Agawam High School Band will present its annual Lisa Ziegert Memorial Scholarship Concert on Tuesday, April 7th, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

A voluntary donation of \$5 will be collected at the door to fund future scholarships for graduating seniors. Five scholarships will be awarded to seniors this year.

The April 7th concert will feature a performance by alto saxophonist and AHS graduate Raymond Drewnowski (class of 1993). Drewnowski is currently the principal saxophonist of the UMass Lowell Wind Ensemble. He is the 1997 recipient of the Mark Wagner and Michael Anderson Memorial Scholarship awards for musical talent.

In 1998, Drewnowski won the University Wind Ensemble Concerto Competition. He is also a saxophonist with the Metropolitan Wind Symphony of Boston, and was recently elected into "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities."

In addition to Drewnowski's guest appearance, the band will perform several popular and symphonic pieces, including pieces by Felix Mendelssohn, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and John Phillip Sousa. Some students will be performing solos and small ensembles.

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"Health Fair" Open To All Town Residents And Free Of Charge

The Agawam Public School System will be conducting a Health Fair **free of charge** to all town residents. The Health Fair is designed to offer points of interest to all age groups. We encourage families to attend.

- Activities will include the following:
- Baystate Hospital: Child injuries and child health.
 - Bike Safety Inspections: **Free helmets will be raffled off.**
 - Blood Pressure Clinic: Nurses from the Agawam Public Schools.
 - Booths: Set-up in the High School cafeteria on various health agencies and issues, numerous area agencies will be represented.
 - Child Safety: Serv-U will display window guards, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and other safety items.
 - C.P.R. and Heimlich Maneuver Demonstrations: Agawam Fire Department
 - Dental Health: **Two dentists will be on sight.**
 - Drug and Alcohol Prevention Booths
 - Fire Safety
 - Food Services: **Free samples of the new school lunch item "Fahita Chicken Pasta Salad."**
 - Heart Health Monitors: Monitoring your exercise routine
 - Insurance: Department of Public Health and Massachusetts Health
 - Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative: Smoking vs Non-Smoking Lungs. **Actual lungs for viewing.**
 - Massachusetts Prevention Center: Interactive quizzes for kids/parents with prizes awarded.
 - Peer Education
 - "Pickle Ball": A new game within the Physical Education curriculum
 - Poison Control Concerns in the Home: Medical West
 - "Signs and Symptoms of Drug Use and Abuse": **7:00 p.m. presentation in the Main Gymnasium by the Agawam Police Department.**
 - "Staying Safe - Being Healthy": Essay winners announced. **\$25 prizes**
 - Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinators
 - **ALSO ...** Crash dummies, Buckle-Up Bear, and much, much more!!!

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Girl Scouts' 5K Road Race & 2 Mile Fun Run Slated For April 19th

The Pioneer Valley Girl Scout Council 5K Road Race and 2 Mile Fun Walk, "Always in Stride!" is scheduled for Sunday, April 19th to begin and end at Milton Bradley Co. in East Longmeadow.

The Fun Walk starts at 1:00 p.m. with a gift to the first 250 entrants. Fee is \$3, and \$5 after April 10th. The Road Race begins at 2:00 p.m. and is course certified and sanctioned by TAC. A long-sleeved t-shirt will be given to the first 125 entrants.

entrants.

Refreshments, random prize drawings, mile splits, water stations for runners, ribbons to top winners, fun activities for walkers and a wheelchair category will be featured.

All proceeds will benefit the Pioneer Valley Girl Scout Council, Inc. Campership Fund.

For more information, call Pioneer Valley Girl Scout Council at 525-4124 or 1-800-639-7047.

Early Release Day Scheduled For Tuesday, April 14th

On Tuesday, April 14th, the Agawam School System will conduct an Early Release Day for students and staff in grades Pre-K through 12.

Kindergarten and Early Childhood classes will not be in session. However, **school lunches will be served** that day.

The approximate dismissal time for individual schools are as follows:

Agawam High School, 11:45 a.m.; Agawam Jr. High School, 12:15 p.m.; Agawam Middle School, 12:45 p.m.; James Clark School, 1:15 p.m.; Clifford Granger School, 12:45 p.m.; Benjamin Phelps School, 1:15 p.m.; Robinson Park School, 1:15 p.m.; Kindergarten, **no sessions**; Early Childhood Center, **no sessions**.

Ag. Schools To Hold "Health Awareness" Essay Contest

As part of the Agawam Public School System's **Health Awareness Week**, an essay contest is being conducted at all schools.

One \$25 prize-winner will be awarded from each of the four elementary schools and the Middle School. Two \$25 prize-winners will be awarded at both the Junior High School and the High School.

Essay forms may be picked up in the **main office** of each school. Essays should be **returned** to the school's **main office** as well. Essays are due back by the close of school on **April 10th**.

Winners will be announced at the **Health Fair** to be held at Agawam High School on April 16th from 6:30-8:30 p.m.



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Sports

Leap Of Faith As McGeoghan Clears 7 Feet

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For talented athletes, achieving milestones in a career might be compared to a first kiss — you know it's probably going to happen, but you are not quite sure when.

So it was for former Agawam High School track and field, football, and basketball standout Phil McGeoghan. He'd been flirting with a seven-foot high-jump for much of his career. Last weekend at the Rutgers University Invitational Track and Field Meet in New Brunswick, New Jersey, the University of Maine freshman cleared the bar at seven feet, one-quarter inch. It was McGeoghan's first launch to that lofty height. It was also a State of Maine record and the first time anyone (as a native of that state or a student there) had ever high-jumped seven feet.

"I really didn't know if I'd be able to get it at that meet. It was outdoors and windy. I'd been working hard on the weights during my off-season from football and tipped the scales at 210 rather than 190," he told us.

McGeoghan was concerned when he missed his first attempt at 6'5", a height the 6'4" athlete can usually walk over. He made it at 6'7" and 6'9" and 6'10" on his third attempt at those heights.

Next up was the seven-foot barrier. "I was tired. But that's where the weight training came into play," he noted. The bar was set at 7'¼". He made it on his third attempt.

That leap qualified him for a meet later in the year at the National Junior Championships in Edwardsville, Illinois. If he finishes among the top three in the high-jump there, he will be on his way to France for the World Junior Championships.

"Getting to seven feet and a little over is a big weight off my shoulders," McGeoghan noted. Yet the three-time high school track and field All-American shouldn't be surprised. During last spring's Western Mass. Championships at Westfield State College, he missed twice at seven feet. But those who saw him jump realized that his body cleared the bar by a couple of inches. Unfortunately, his uniform (a bit on the baggy side) brushed the bar and sent it spinning to the mat.

How McGeoghan Went To University Of Maine...
McGeoghan, who was also a four-time state champion in the high-jump and triple-jump during his high school career, has quite a story behind his current matriculation to the University of Maine.

After an outstanding All-Western Mass. football career, he was heavily recruited last year by Boston University. They wanted him to help them on the gridiron. He was also granted permission to compete in track and field when he wasn't wearing a football suit.

As a freshman, the 1997 AHS grad excelled as a wide receiver for the Terriers. Then, at the end of the last football season, the school's administration (running an institution of higher education with an endowment close behind Harvard's and M.I.T.'s in the state) abolished football in a move they described as cost-cutting. In one heartless action, they threw their players to the wind after selling a bill of goods which enticed them to attend BU in the first place.

SEE LEAP OF FAITH - Page 38...

Patterson & Maloni Both Earn Division I All WMass Honors

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

To no one's surprise, Agawam High School's Kristen Patterson and Barbara Maloni are on the All-Western Mass. girls' basketball team again — Patterson, a senior, is on for the fourth time, and Maloni, a junior, for the second. Both earned their coveted spots by turning in stellar seasons as the Brownies went 20-2 and took a share of the Valley Wheel crown for 1997-1998.

Patterson, who averaged 11 points a game, is a pure point guard blessed with the skills to run an up-tempo, in-control offense. She's a member of the 1,000-point club at AHS. That milestone came on January 30th in a home game against Holyoke. The Brownies won it easily, 56-17.

Patterson came in with 994 points and got number 1,000 with a drive and a pop in the lane. She scored a total of 12 points. Her career mark, when the game was over, stood at 1,006. She scored 99 points in her final nine games of the season to record 1,105 in her four seasons as a Brownie.

"That was, without a doubt, my most memorable personal moment of the season," Pat-

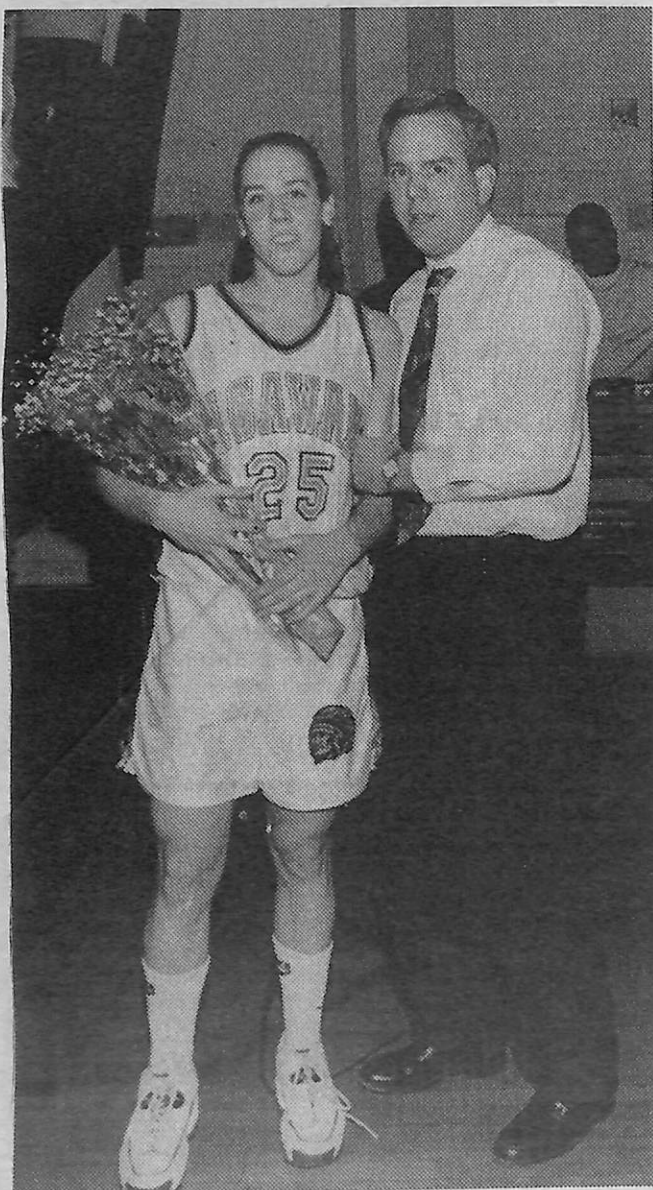
terson said of her 1,000th point. "It was at home. The place was packed. The fans supported me, as they did for my entire career."

Her most memorable team moment was beating State Champion Minnechaug Regional, 51-45, on February 19th at Kibbe Gym in the final regular-season game. "Minnechaug was scared of us," she said. "When we were at full strength, we were the only team that could beat them."

The low point for her was their semi-final, 55-50 loss to West Side in the Western Mass. Division I Tournament. "We played that game not to lose. West Springfield came in wanting to win. That's why we lost. I don't think any of us were looking ahead to a possible championship game against Minnechaug."

The 5'6" guard will be attending American International College on a full scholarship in the fall. She will play both soccer and basketball with the Yellow Jackets. They are a good, ascending Division II team. There is a good chance she'll win a starting job as a freshman.

SEE PATTERSON & MALONI- Page 38...



COACH LOU CONTE is pictured with his two 1,000 point scorers, Barbara Maloni (left) and Kristen Patterson. Both were named to the Division I All Western Mass First Team for their exploits on the hardwood during the 1997-1998 girls' basketball season. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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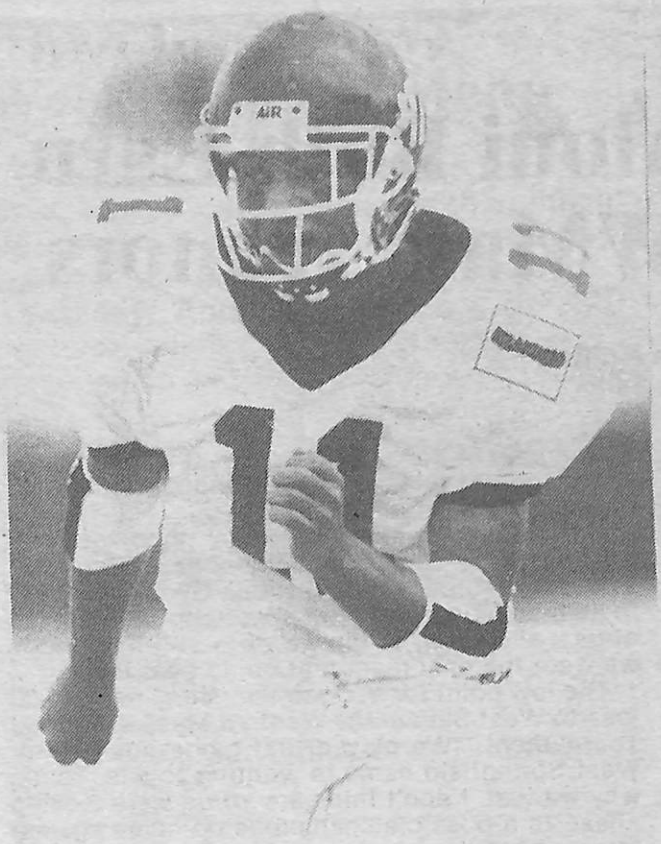
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FORMER AGAWAM HIGH STAR Phil McGeoghan will also perform for the UMaine Blackbears on the gridiron next fall.

LEAP OF FAITH - from Page 37...

The real term for the double-cross should be the most favored and noxious term of this age — political correctness. They took a program steeped in 100 years of tradition and history and cut it off at the knees in favor of other athletic programs with no history and not even a rumor of tradition.

McGeoghan landed on his feet. Maine had also recruited him out of high school. The Blackbears didn't care that McGeoghan had turned them down the first time around. They had a class agenda and knew where they were going. They contacted him and he came.

"I have close to the same deal BU offered me. I'll be able to play football here and compete in track and field. This place is very beautiful and I'm comfortable in Orono (Maine's campus)."

His major is still marketing. He is still carrying a B average in it, much as he did at BU.

There is one consideration for him — getting better at leaping over that bar. He must juggle that against his prodigious skills as a football player. "I want to high-jump 7'2" or better come this summer," he says.

He thinks that ultimately he'll hit 7'8", which will place him in a world class category. What happens after that?

"I'm not looking that far ahead. I'm going to take it slow. If I perform to that level, okay. But no one can know where I'll be then."

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PATTERSON & MALONI - from Page 37...

Whether she starts or comes in as a substitute, she will have a chance to play with senior Cyndi Fontanilles, a former AHS great. The 6'2" frontliner graduated from Agawam the spring before Patterson started for the varsity as a freshman. "I'm looking forward to playing with Cyndi," Patterson smiled.

Patterson was courted by many colleges because of her skills in soccer, which earned her All-American and All-Western Mass. honors. UMass had a red carpet rolled up to their door if she wanted an all-expense-paid collegiate soccer career. But it didn't include her first love — basketball.

"I could have played soccer for them. But I would have been a walk-on in basketball. I really don't know how much of a look I would have gotten, because the girls on the basketball team are there under scholarships."

Patterson will end her brilliant athletic career with the Brownies as the mainstay of their softball team, where she plays shortstop like a mini Mark Belanger and steals bases with all the skill of a Ricky Henderson. "I'm also hitting with power in training camp," she smiled, noting that she will probably be put in the number three slot in the order, down from her leadoff role in past seasons.

She was the Division I softball player of the year in 1997.

Patterson's teammate, Barbara Maloni, is equally deserving of a spot on the Western Mass. "Dream Team." If Patterson is a cerebral, calculating player, the 5'8" Maloni is an in-your-face, no-fear, one-on-one scoring machine.

She averaged 21.1 points per game this season. She related two memorable moments from 1997-1998.

"Scoring my 1,000th point was special," she smiled. That came on February 10th in a 71-55 win over West Springfield. She went into the game with 998 career points. Numbers 1,000 and 1,001 came on a three-pointer from the right wing. She would finish that game with 1,029 and go on in her final four games of the season to score 83 for a total of 1,112 points.

The Minnechaug win also was a high point for her. Also on the list was their win over Egg Harbor, a team from New Jersey, in their season-opener at the Coca-Cola Classic at Springfield College.

The big disappointment was being unable to play because of an injury in their first contest at Minnechaug. Perhaps an even bigger letdown for her was their semi-final loss to West Springfield. Not many people know it, but she was working with an injury (a contusion on the left knee) suffered in that win over the Falcons. Not one to make excuses, Maloni looked at it this way: "Their seniors won it. Becky (Donahue) and Colleen (McCaffrey), West Side's All-Western Mass. tandem, had nothing to lose and just played great."

She sees the 1998-1999 team as a legitimate contender for a State Championship next season, despite the loss of Patterson and Amber Conte. "I think we will still keep our transition game intact. Our future is very exciting."

Currently, Maloni is training for what appears to be another great season in girls' track. She's been an All-Western Mass. performer in that sport as well, and is the defending Western Mass. champ in the 400 meters.

Going back to girls' basketball, we also can't forget Melissa Cote. The 5'10" junior forward was named as an honorable mention choice to the All-Western Mass. team. She, along with junior center Pia Bertone-Gross and Maloni, will give the Brownies a solid, senior nucleus come next year.



AHS SENIOR CHRIS HEARN

Hearn Tended Nets For AHS Hockey With Plenty Of Fire

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

In hockey, the last guy between the puck and a score is the goaltender. The Agawam High School hockey team had a good keeper this season in Chris Hearn. Recently, he took some time out to talk about himself and his days at Agawam High.

Chris just turned 18 on March 28th. He's 5'9" and 155 pounds. He's spent four years at the High School. His curriculum includes modern literature, electronic music, advanced math, sociology, graphic arts, and chemistry. His favorite course is graphic arts. His top teacher is Thomas Collins (graphic arts).

In the fall, Chris will attend Fitchburg State College where he'll major in graphic arts on the way to a career as a graphic arts teacher.

Chris's sole sport at AHS was hockey, where he played on the varsity for three seasons.

Chris's most memorable sports moment came in his junior year, when he was in the net against powerful West Side. "We tied them, two-all. It was the first time in six years we didn't lose to them," Chris smiled.

He described this past AHS season. "We started slowly, then began to get comfortable with each other. The loss to Chicopee (7-5 on Feb. 18th) hurt a little. But we hung in there and made the playoffs."

SEE HEARN - Page 39...

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AHS SENIOR CHRIS HEARN

HEARN - from Page 38...

Chris enjoys Chinese cuisine. His favorite dish is lo mein.

His favorite color is red.

A '69 Mustang is his choice for wheels and he has one close by. "My dad is rebuilding a '69 Mustang," he noted.

Goalie Andy Moog of the Montreal Canadiens is his top athlete. The Boston Bruins are his top team. "I'm a hometown type of fan. We're going to a Bruins game April 11th," he said.

A good game of pool or the movies is how he relaxes.

His taste in clothes runs to "anything that is comfortable."

Chris likes the Blues. Stevie Ray Vaughn and Dave Matthews are two of his favorite musicians.

"The Simpsons" are tops on TV and the "Star Wars" trilogy leads the list of his favorite flicks.

His dad's name is Mike. His mom is Diane. Chris has a younger brother, Dan.

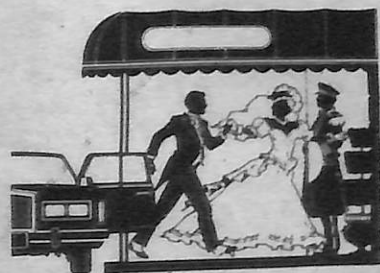
His parents are the people he looks up to the most. He also likes Andy Moog as a role model.

When his days at AHS are done, Chris would like people to remember is this way: "I think I'm a nice guy who can be pretty funny. I also want them to know that I didn't mind going to school every day."

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Tomkiel Inducted Into New England Wrestling Coaches Hall Of Fame

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Professional wrestling aside, where thyroid-challenged geeks, steroid stabbers, and clowns reside, the sport of wrestling on the high school, college, national, and international level is about as intense as it gets in athletics.

It's no surprise that many who coach the sport are rewarded by hives, high blood pressure, and hoarse throats. Some, however, find the right key for the latch and reap a good harvest, both in wins, top notch programs, and awards of a different nature.

One of the most recognized and awarded high school wrestling coaches in the state, if not in the Northeast, is Agawam High School's Phil Tomkiel. He has been at the Brownie helm for the last 24 years. This season, before the finals of the New England Championships, he gleaned another honor - he was inducted into the New England Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame.

"It was a nice ceremony. I was presented by my assistant coach, Gary Geiger. He introduced me as a teacher, coach, and friend. It was moving. They held the ceremony on the center mat. I was given a beautiful gold chain with a medal on it," Tomkiel said.

That award goes into a trophy case sparkling with accolades, including this year, in *USA Wrestling* magazine, he was named the Massachusetts "Man of the Year," along with an article complete with pictures. Last spring, at a ceremony in Kansas City, he received the National High School Wrestling "Coach of the Year" Award.

In 1996, Tomkiel was named the Agawam UNICO "Man of the Year," as well as the Massachusetts and District I "Coach of the Year."

He has been named "Coach of the Year" in Western Mass. 10 times, including this season.

Tomkiel is also a member of the exclusive Massachusetts Coaches Association 200 Club, for coaches with 200 wins or more in their career. Currently, his 24-year record stands at 279-65 (.818) - all of that for a guy who isn't even 50 years-old yet.

Those awards are nice milestones, according to Tomkiel. "The kids have so much to do with the success of a coach or a program. They go out



AGAWAM HIGH WRESTLING COACH Phil Tomkiel (left) holds the plaque designating him as a member of the New England Coaches Hall of Fame. Congratulating Tomkiel is his assistant, Gary Geiger.

there and put into practice whatever philosophy of strategy a coach imparts to them," he stressed.

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McKay & Malachowski Travel To Pittsburgh For Wrestling's Nationals

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam High wrestlers Kevin McKay and Darrell Malachowski spent last weekend at the National High School Wrestling Championships in Pittsburgh. The two seniors, both multiple All-Western Mass. selections (McKay, three times; Malachowski, twice) and All-State performers (McKay last season; Malachowski this year), came away with quite an experience.

Malachowski wrestled in the 215's. "There were 44 kids from 48 states at the tournament in that weight class alone," he noted.

Malachowski, who went unbeaten this year (30-0) and had a career record of 101-20, wasn't quite ready for what he met down in the Steel City. He wrestled in two matches, losing both by a pin-fall. "The first kid to beat me was a two-time state champion from Washington State. The second kid was from Indiana." Then he added with a chuckle, "The kid who beat them was really tough, from Wisconsin. He went on to win the National Championship in the 215's."

He admitted, "They wrestle totally different from our style in the Northeast. They know Greco-Roman, freestyle, and other forms of the sport. And they can also throw you all over the place."

Malachowski was also impressed with the size of the venue, held at Duquesne University, which is in the heart of Pennsylvania wrestling country. "Their gym is huge, with eight mats going at all times. We wrestled from 1:00 in the afternoon on Friday to 1:00 in the morning on Saturday. We did it all over again, starting at 1:00 in the afternoon on Saturday to 1:00 on Sunday morning."

"For the finals," he continued, "they had three sections of the mat walled off with big black curtains. The stands were set in the open side. They also had a big television screen on one wall so everyone could see the action."

Malachowski's mom went with him. They stayed at the Marriott. They liked the city, which has some streets made out of brick and buildings which looked like they were once castles. Malachowski did notice that the prices of the meals were a bit on the steep side. "I bought a large Sprite and a medium order of pretzels at the meet. It cost me six bucks!"

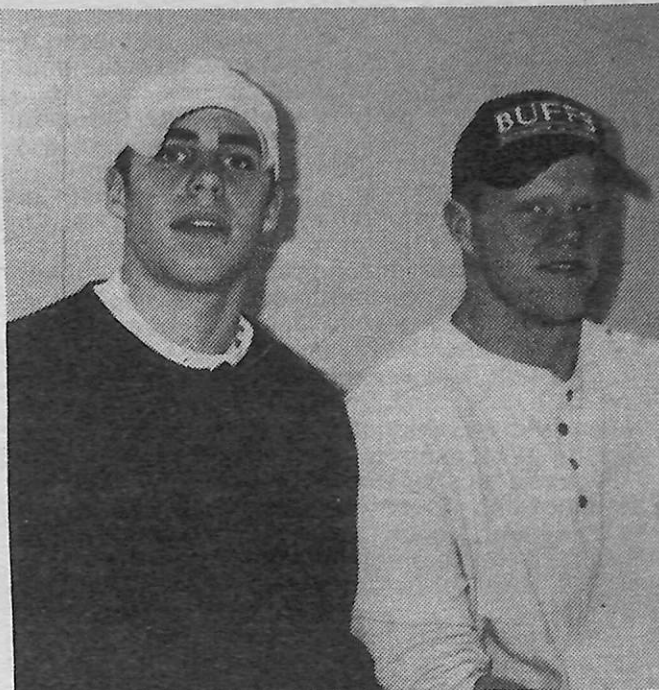
Malachowski would like to thank all the people who sponsored him so he was able to go to the Nationals. "I'll never forget the experience," he said.

It was also an eye-opener for McKay, who came in with a career mark of 121-16 and a season record of 31-2. "It was tough. There were 64 kids in my weight class. I was in the 125's instead of the 119's because I really didn't get to work out between the States and the Nationals."

McKay was doing well in his first match, against a kid from Wisconsin. "He beat me, 10-6. I just sort of ran out of gas at the end," he noted. His next opponent pinned him.

Like Malachowski, McKay came away impressed at how kids from the rest of the country wrestle. "We tend to look for openings and feel out our opponents. The ones in Pittsburgh are very aggressive and they shoot a lot."

Brownie wrestling Coach Phil Tomkiel, who didn't accompany the kids this time around, also brought up another point. "At the Nationals, you see wrestlers who wrestle all year round. They take no time off. Some of them have season records of 130-0."



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL'S TWO ALL WESTERN MASS wrestling champs, Kevin McKay (left) and Darrell Malachowski, traveled to Pittsburgh last weekend for the National High School Championships.

McKay, who will wrestle at Springfield College next fall, feels the experience he gained will help him in his college career. "I have a pretty good idea now what it will take to be successful at the next level. I have a lot to learn."

McKay was accompanied by his parents. He also found Pittsburgh to be interesting. "It was a nice, clean place and pretty in a way," he noted.

Daggett Gymnasts Compete At Annual "Capital Cup"

Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics visited our nation's capital for the annual Capital Cup held at the University of Maryland on March 6th-7th.

In the "Open" division, Lauren Powell of Agawam led the way with a 33.625. Brionne Lancour was right behind her with a 33.05. Rounding out the scoring were other great scores: Sarah Liebowitz, 32.65; Michele Germano, 32.25; and Noelle Marquez, 31.55.

The Level 8 division felt right at home, as Chicopee's Devon Ehret reached new heights with a 35.10 all-around that included a 9.0 on beam and a 9.15 on floor.

West Suffield's Leigha Hancock "rocked around the clock" with a floor exercise that took seventh place (9.2), ending with a 34.975 all-around.

Agawam's Andrea Babbins saw her 9.15 on floor help her to a 34.25 all-around, and Karen Christoferson had a high score of 9.275 on floor and 33.775 all-around.

Shelbourne Falls' Paula Ballentine combined power and grace on floor (8.875), finishing with a 32.675 all-around.

After the meet was over, many of the girls and their families toured Washington D.C. The combination of athletics and education created a fantastic learning experience for these young ladies.

Oxbow Water Show To Start Season On April 4th

The Oxbow Water Ski Show Team of Northampton will be doing its annual season opener called "Ice Out" on Saturday, April 4th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Oxbow Marina, Island Pond Road, Northampton.

There will be different types of daring waterskiing in the cold water. For more information, contact Bob or Rose at (413) 583-3162.

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JOE CONTE, JR., first vice-president of the Agawam Chapter of Unico National and chairman of the upcoming Unico Golf Tournament, discusses plans for the tournament with fellow Unico members Sal Morassi, Sr., and Dick DiLullo. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

First Annual Unico Golf Tournament

On Sunday, June 7th, the Agawam Chapter of Unico National will be holding its first annual Unico Golf Tournament at the Agawam Country Club.

According to Joseph J. Conte, Jr., first vice-president of the Unico chapter and chairman of the upcoming tournament, this event will feature a hole-in-one contest and many prizes for everyone. What's more, there will be a complete steak dinner at the Italian Sporting Club on Cooper Street, Agawam, following the tournament.

The tournament will be a scramble, best ball format, and tickets are \$50 per person/\$200 per foursome.

Tickets and additional information are available by calling Joseph J. Conte, Jr., 786-6700, Gene Mutti, 786-7644, or John Conte, 786-9518.

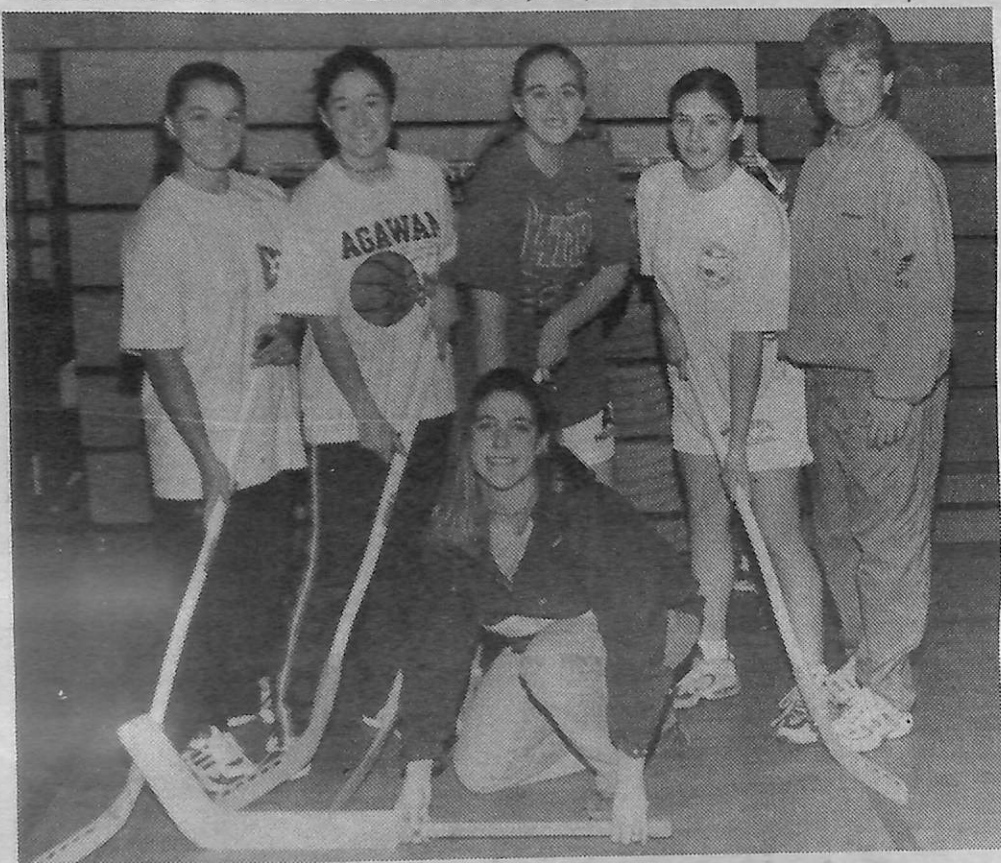
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ADVERTISER NEWS

* * *

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MEMBERS OF THE "PENGUINS," a girls' floor hockey team from Agawam High School: Julie Laflamme, Heather Arcangeletti, Shauna Hadden, Amy Mastroianni, gym instructor Ms. Murray, and Jill DeMarco (kneeling). (Missing from photo: Kelli Kunkel.) Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



Girls' 1998 Floor Hockey Action At Agawam High School

The Agawam High School "Penguins" from period 6A dominated during Semester 1 of the Girls' 1998 Floor Hockey Tournament to advance to the finals and await the winners from Semester 2.

They "teamed up" again as the "Blowfish" and went on to defeat team "Nike" from period 2A.

They had an overpowering offense with Amy Mastroianni as their center and leading scorer. Julie Laflamme and Shauna Hadden played wing and the defense was anchored by Heather Arcangeletti and Kelli Kunkel. And let's not forget the stellar play of goalie Jill DeMarco.

The finals went "down to the wire" as the teams had to drop players in sudden death and it came down to a shootout between Amy Mastroianni and Kristen Patterson. Both goalies were exceptional in the overtime (Jill DeMarco and Amber Conte).



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“Piranhas” Complete Winter Season And Slate Spring Signups

The Agawam Piranhas completed the winter season with a seventh place team victory in the winter championships held at Springfield College.

Fifteen teams competed in the winter championships, including many that the Piranhas had not swum against in the regular season. The team held its season-ending banquet at Ferruccio's Banquet House, where the swimmers were treated to a fine dinner and plaques were awarded to the top three swimmers in each age group.

The Piranhas wish to thank both of our corporate sponsors, Berkshire Power and Riverside Park, for their continued support, as well as Steve and Julie Adamski for all their hard work, effort, and “can do” attitude as they helped the team grow over the past three years. Their tireless efforts and that of the coaching staff, headed by Michelle Wheeler, brought forth the best in the children. Sadly, Steve, Julie, and Michelle will be departing from the team this spring.

We would like to welcome Larry and Deb Wells as the new “head honchos” of the Piranhas. The Adamskis will still be with us, cheering from the sidelines, timing, scoring, place judging, and helping out at stroke and turn.

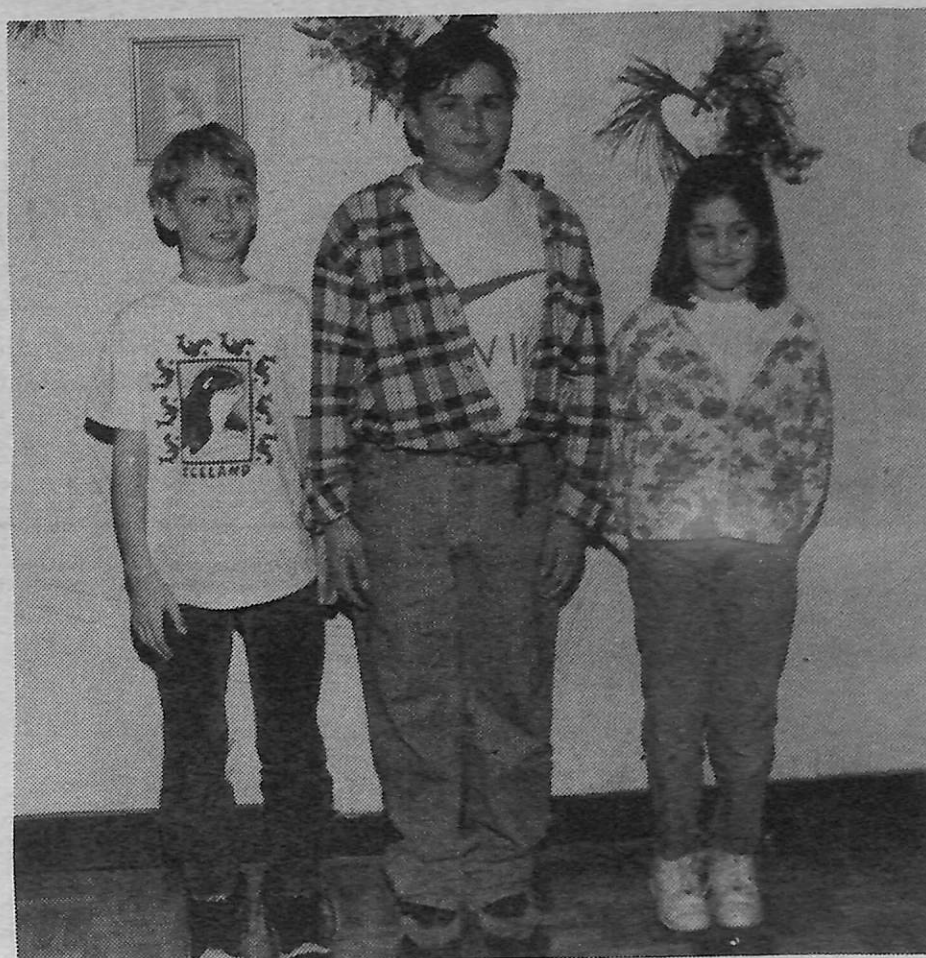
Spring signups will be held at the Park and Rec. Office on April 13th. We hope to see all the current members as well as some new “fish” for the pool.



THE PIRANHAS' 11 AND 12 YEAR-OLD BOYS who placed second at the Pioneer Valley Swimming Championships: Daniel Adamski, Mike Lalli, David Torrey, Tom Gorman, Kyle Henry, Matt Gendron, Paul Lagasse, and Kyle Sullivan. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



THE PIRANHAS' COACHES: Michelle Wheeler, Danielle DeForge, and Ian Lane. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



THE TOP THREE OVERALL POINT-GETTERS for the Piranhas' winter season: Adam Deliefde, Dan Adamski, and Julie Gorman. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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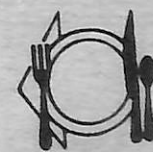
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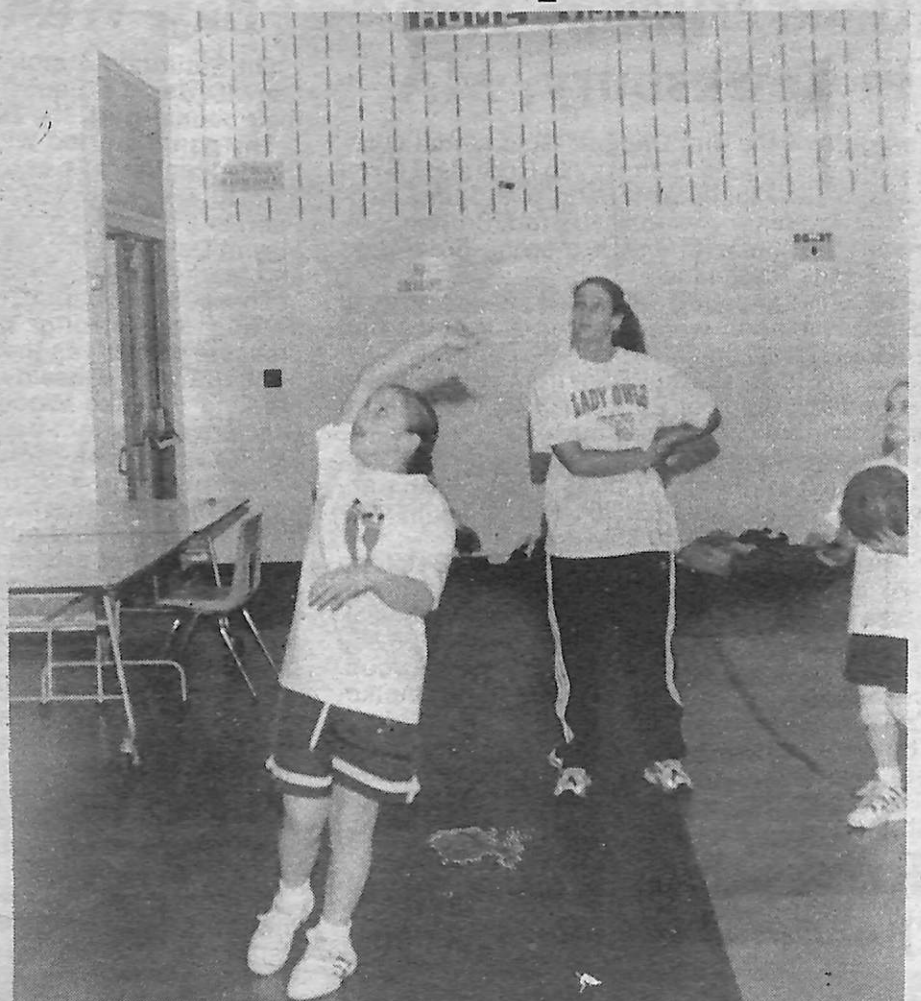
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4th & 5th Grade Girls Turn Out For Hoop Clinic



AGAWAM ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION 5th/6th Girls' Suburban Basketball Coaches Bob Hersey and Harold Cote, with the assistance of Agawam High varsity players Kristen Patterson, Amber Conte, and Melissa Cote, as well as former AHS star Kristen Schmaelzle, held a basketball clinic on Tuesday, March 24th at the Agawam Junior High for girls currently in the fourth and fifth grade. The purpose of the clinic was to evaluate the girls and to teach them skills to work on over the summer months in anticipation of the start of the 1998 Suburban Basketball Season next fall. The AAA was pleased with the fine turnout and wish to thank Kristen Patterson, Amber Conte, Melissa Cote, and Kristen Schmaelzle for taking time out from their busy schedules to spend a few hours with the girls. IN PHOTO LEFT, Kristen Patterson runs a dribbling drill with fifth grader Jamie Cullen; in photo right, Kristen Schmaelzle watches fifth grader Julie Czuprynski do a right-handed layup. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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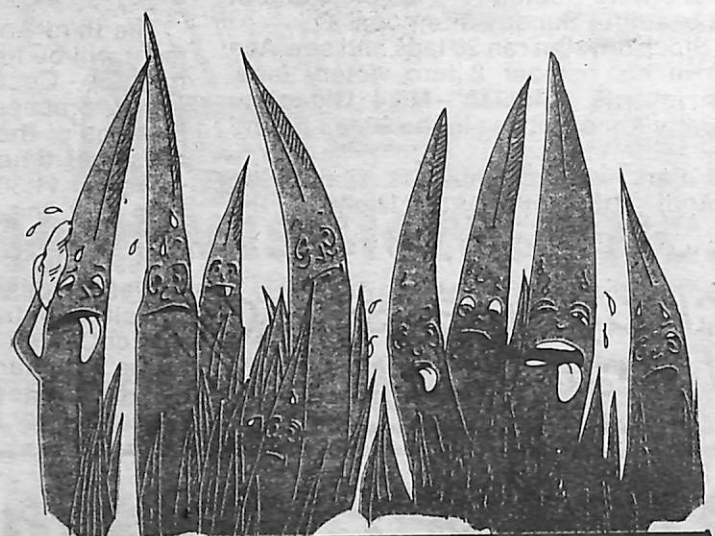
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Daggett Gymnasts Attend "Bunny Hop" In Tewksbury, MA

The girls of the Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics team hopped their way to Northeast Gymnastics in Tewksbury for the Judges' Bunny Hop. In the evening session, Kristen Breitenbach competed in the level seven, 7-9 age group and her 31.5 took first place.

Agawam's Elizabeth Clark and Simsbury's Rebecca Humphrey were in the 14-plus age group and scored 31.7 and 33.2 (first), respectively.

Level six had Caitlin Ranstrom of Agawam (30.3) and Jen Stack of Enfield (33.75) taking third place, both in the 7-9 age group.

In the 10-11 age group, the scores were Sharon Kurpaska (29.45), Rachel Zmuda (27.9), Sarah Kantany (27.55), Karis Gale (26.95), Rachel Humphrey (26.6), and Joy Higley (30.35).

In the level five, 7-9 age group, Jamie Basilone (28.95) and Mia Saimer (27.35); the 9-10 group, Marissa Cheverier (29.6), Julia Conway (28.925), Andreas Hurwitz (28.75), Katelyn Lavoie (28.85), and Mia Yacteen (29.95); and the 11-12 age group, Rebecca Brown (30.75) and Cassandra Smolkowicz (29.25).

The gymnastics judges also gave awards to "Best Team Costume with a Bunny Theme," and the girls won second place with a Peter Rabbit costume.

Riverside Speedway Checkers Six Features On Sun., March 29th

Riverside Park Speedway opened stock car racing in New England on Sunday, March 29th, with the running of the Pepsi 200 NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour race. The 200-lap event was taken by long-time Riverside Park favorite **Reggie Ruggiero**.

Five other Winston Racing Series divisions opened their 1998 seasons following the checkered flag for the Modified Tour. The 50-lap Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock feature saw **Willie Hardie, Jr.** pilot his number 3 into victory lane, followed by 1997 Track Champion Eddy Carroll and Tom Fearn in third place.

The newly-classified Sportsman division got off to a great start with **Jon Waterhouse** taking the 25-lap feature. Waterhouse was followed by the number 66 of Beau LeBeau and the number 19 of Rick Leavitt.

The 20-lap Super Stock feature was won by **Keith DeSanctis**. Norm Ashline took second place, and the third-place finisher was Craig Collins.

Action didn't stop there, as Riverside Park Speedway fans were treated to a full schedule of racing on a beautiful Sunday afternoon.

The Mini Stock division ran 20 laps and saw **Ace Johnson** drive his number 2 into victory lane. Finally, fan favorite "**Maniac**" **Mike Gigantino** edged out Betty Anne Dobosz in the 20-lap Figure 8 race.

Riverside Park will continue its season on Saturday, April 11th, with NAPA Night at the Races.

Check our classified ads in each edition...

Final Games For Bay West Panthers

On Saturday, March 28th, the Bay West Panthers (Division B Squirt) were matched up against their counterpart, the Bay West Glaciers.

The game started with Anthony Santinello giving the Panthers an early 1-0 lead with the goal being assisted by Ed Gaiser and Matt Footit. The Panther's defense played very tight due to the fine play of David Suchy, Matt Woodward, Joe Zmuda, and Matt Footit.

The second period started with the Glaciers putting on strong offensive pressure. The pressure paid off as the Glaciers tied the game on a goal by E. Cassidy with the assists being credited to Mike Wood and Josh Edwards. The Glaciers came right back to take the lead as Mike Landry scored with assists going to E. Cassidy.

The third period started with the Panthers turning on the offensive heat but the Glaciers' goalie, Sara Bishop, would allow the puck past her. The Glaciers scored an empty net goal (Mike Woods, assisted by E. Cassidy) at the end to finish the scoring at 3-1. The Panthers played an outstanding game but, unfortunately, ran into a hot goaltender.

On Sunday, the Panthers played their final game of the season against a tough Holy Name team. The Panthers came out storming as Anthony Santinello scored with the assist going to Adam Corbin to give Bay West a 1-0 lead. A couple minutes later, Ed Gaiser (unassisted) found the back of the net on a strong wrist shot to extend the lead to 2-0.

The Panthers increased their lead to 3-0 on a fine goal by Mike O'Neil, assisted by Anthony Santinello. Holy Name then scored to make the score 3-1. The second period started with Holy Name putting on the pressure but the outstanding goaltending by Tony Boido kept Holy Name off the board in the second period.

The third period started with Holy Name closing the game to 3-2. Bay West started putting on the pressure again as Ryan Harlow took an excellent shot on goal followed by a shot from Mike Brouillette. Jon Wagner scored to give the Panthers a cushion to their lead with the assist being credited to Mike Brouillette to extend the lead to 4-2. Adam Corbin finished the scoring with an empty net goal, assisted by Anthony Santinello, to make it 5-2.

Special thanks were in order to the fine coaching staff of head coach Steve Brouillette and assistants Rowland Lucier and John Martin. Steve Brouillette said, "This team had a great season by coming in fourth place out of 12 teams. The guys on this team never gave up and worked very hard and their work showed in their success."

COA Golf Tourney Slated For May 29th

The third Annual Agawam C.O.A. Golf Tournament will be held May 29th at the Agawam Country Club. Cost of the tournament is \$40. This year's proceeds will go toward the new furnishings of the Senior Center.

Tee off time is at 12:00 noon. Snacks will be served at 11:30 a.m. (cheese, fruit, and crackers). This year, the tournament will end with cold cut grinders, potato and macaroni salad, pickles, and olives. Betty's famous homemade cookies will be served for dessert.

Golf registration forms are available at the Senior Center. Support the Agawam seniors! Join in the fun! Many raffle prizes and one grand prize will be offered. For more information, call the Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242.



Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

July Temperatures In March Confuse Fishing Patterns

A well-known saying goes something like, "If you don't like the weather in New England, wait a minute."

In less than 10 days, we went from frigid, over-night temperatures and the largest snowfall of the winter season to July temperatures — and it's not even April yet.

The snow pack in the north country is melting off much too fast, and river flooding will be a real concern (especially if we get a large rainstorm in the next few days).

What this all means to fishermen, is that you must adapt your techniques to match the conditions.

During normal spring conditions, trout fishermen can expect to have action near the surface for most of the morning hours and again as evening approaches. With this extremely hot weather coming so early, the water temps at the surface will cause the fish to move deeper in the water. Another factor that we have to take into account, especially when trolling local lakes and ponds, is the amount of boat traffic.

This midsummer temperature abnormality has pleasure boaters out early, enjoying the water. Usually, at this time of the year, only the fishermen are out in boats. The increase in boat traffic will also cause fish to move deeper in the water column.

Try using a few more colors of lead core than normal, or set your downriggers eight to 10 feet deeper than you usually do. Also, try running your baits much farther from the boat than normal.

FISH REPORTS

Congamond Lakes have been stocked with some nice-sized trout by the state. Middle and North Ponds received the majority of the fish. Bait fishermen are scoring on trout worms, small shiners, and Berkely Power Bait. Boat trollers are taking fish on everything from Davis rigs to Mepps spinners. Try trolling a bit deeper than normal during the hot spell.

Valley streams have also been hit by the stocking trucks and should provide for some decent catches.

SALT WATER

Flounder are being taken on a hit-or-miss basis from areas in Long Island Sound. Sand worms or clam chunks seem to be working best.

Cod fishing seems to be picking up, with some of the party boats reporting better catches off of the ledges and some of the more popular wrecks. The average size of the pool winners is going up, with fish in the mid-20's being more common.

Striper action continues to be on-again/off-again in the Thames River. Elsewhere, anglers are anxiously awaiting some of the early migrating fish to show up. By next week, we should start to see a few big fish showing up in the reports.

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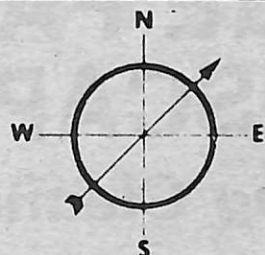
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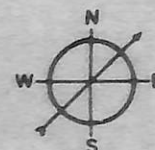
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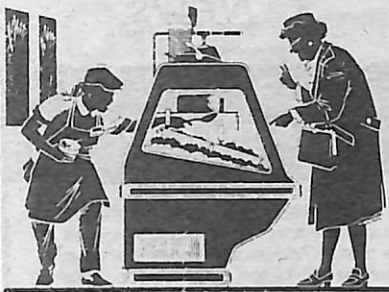
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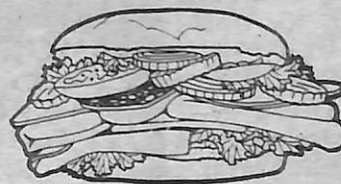
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